

School Board Candidate Questions

Role of Public Schools

- What is the role of public education in our community?
- What do you think are the top three issues in public education?
- What challenges to our public schools do you hope to address?
- A system of public schools is mandated by our Ohio Constitution. Given the alternatives such as charter schools, religious schools and home schooling, why is our public school system important?
- A system of public schools is mandated by our Ohio Constitution. In your view, what should that look like?

Local Control

- Ohio is a “local control” state; what does local control mean to you?
- State lawmakers are increasingly trying to define more of what happens in a school district. If and when the state proposes or passes policies that a school board collectively feels is contrary to the interests and values of the community, what is the role of the school board?

Role of School Board Member

- Please describe the role of a local school board member.
- Please describe the role of a local school board member and share why you are the best person to fill this role?
- What traits would you look for in a superintendent?
- What questions would you ask a candidate for superintendent?
- What traits would you look for in a district treasurer?
- What questions would you ask a candidate for district treasurer?
- How would you support the district’s teachers?
- How can school boards support teachers?

District Priorities

- What about your school district do you want to be different by the end of your term?
- What do you think are the top three issues in our district?

Personal Motivation

- Why do you want to serve?
- What is your experience with your public schools? For example, have you attended a school board meeting, or have you spent time inside your schools?

Decision Making/Conflict Management

- You are one voice but the board makes decisions. Can you speak to your ability to build consensus when your opinion is in the minority?
- Boards of education represent the public and are accountable to the public. What makes a good board member? How should board members work with each other and with the public?
- Education has become the target for hot-topic issues. What skills do you have for constructive responses to controversy?

Curriculum/Learning

- Are there unmet educational needs that you feel need to be addressed and what are they?
- How can our school district support all our students?
- How will you assure that our school system meets the unique, diverse needs of all students?
- Comment on programs for gifted and talented learners and how do you believe students should be qualified to access these?
- What are your thoughts about acceleration policies for students in courses for which they demonstrate extraordinary aptitude and interest?
- What advanced courses (AP, IB, CCP) are appropriate for our school district?
- What is the role for distance/remote learning in our school district?

Operations/Safety

- What operations issues, if any, would you prioritize?
- What policies will you support or oppose to protect our schools from violence?

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

- What specific actions or policies do you support or oppose regarding diversity, equity and inclusion in education?

Emotional Health

- What role, if any, should our schools play in supporting social, emotional learning for our students?
- What policies will you support or oppose to protect students from bullying?