

**What is your background and how do those experiences and skills allow you to be an effective school board member?**

As a teacher, parent of 4 successful children, and volunteer, I have a plethora of experience working in the classroom with students, faculty, administrators and parents/guardians. I recognize the challenges that students, parents, and staff face in the classroom and within the school district. I have experience developing curriculum, writing and revising IEPs, communicating with parents and forming a partnership to benefit the individual student, and encouraging students to be their best selves by striving to meet goals and accept challenges with vigor. I am an innovator, a motivator, and a leader. I believe that every child deserves the opportunity to explore, grow, and express themselves in a safe environment conducive to learning.

**What is the single most important issue facing your school district and how would you address it?**

The single most important issue facing my school district is the low high school graduation rate and the dismal standardized test scores. Currently, the unimaginative and subpar curriculum, lack of enrichment programs, outdated and/or insufficient supplies, tools, technologies, lack of accountability, poor proficiency rates, and lack of extracurricular activities that stimulate imagination and develop talent, contribute to students who are unprepared for the next step in their journey be it college, trade school, community college, military service, or entrepreneurship. I propose revamping the entire curriculum, add mentorship programs, create custom learning blocks & individualized instruction, and upgrade arts & technology programs.

**How should school boards respond to community calls for removing any curriculum topics, subjects, books and programs?**

Before any discussion begins regarding the removal of any topics, subjects, books, or programs it is my policy that I read the books, and/or research the programs/subjects/topics FIRST. I want to do my own homework on the matter. I also want to have a thorough understanding as to what educational objective(s) is fulfilled by utilizing such topics/books/programs/subjects. Parents deserve to have their concerns heard and their questions answered. I want families to know that I am accessible and here as a resource to support their children. Teachers should also know that I intend to help them with whatever they need so they can do their job more effectively.

**What kind of mental health supports do you favor in schools and how would you go about advocating for them?**

Mental health supports are crucial in the school environment. In addition to the school nurse (who should be on staff full-time), students will have easy access to the guidance counselor, college counselor, and a school psychologist during the school day if needed. Parents will also have access to the same support system. Emotional health supports are critical to student and staff safety. It is important that families and teachers work together to monitor children's emotional well-being. School psychologists will serve as a mentor to all students, develop enrichment programs, and provide presentations to the community throughout the school year.

**How would you ensure the district provides equitable access and meets the needs of all students, including traditionally under-served student populations such as students of color, low-income students, English-language learners and students receiving special education services?**

As a teacher and parent, I encourage my students and children to participate, engage, focus, and share in all that they do. If elected, I will be a keen observer in each school within the district to ensure that CSD students are doing the same. The purpose of education is to instill confidence, develop literacy, comprehension, mathematical, and analytical skills, while fostering independence. The implementation of a well-rounded curriculum with a variety of programs, clubs, sports and facilities will be designed to serve ALL.

**How should school boards assist with attracting and retaining quality teachers and public education workers?**

It is critical that our district attract persons who are well-qualified, innovative, engaging, energetic, inspirational, disciplined, and pass strict background checks. In order to attract and retain the most qualified teachers and public education workers such as described above, our district must provide them with quality benefits, mentorship programs, empower them to maintain classroom order, provide a clean, safe, well-maintained working environment, free high quality lunches, more flexibility with attending to their own family matters, less out of pocket spending to equip & beautify their classrooms, bonuses for student achievement/meeting goals, and paid attendance for conferences/conventions/trips for continuing education.