

## Vickie Smith for Board of Education "Watch Us Grow!" Personal Information

- First generation college student who Graduated from Gardner-Webb University in 1992 with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and again in 2004 with a Masters Degree in School Administration.
- Married for 34+ years
- Family of Educators! Son and daughter-in-law are both teachers, three grandchildren

## **Professional Background**

- 30 years experience in public education as a teacher assistant (1 year), kindergarten teacher (12 years), assistant principal (4 years), and most recently as principal of Union Elementary in Shallotte (13 years)
- Enjoy working with teachers, students, staff, parents, and community partners to support students and provide them the tools needed (socially, emotionally, and academically) to be successful in school and life
- Knowledge of curriculum, teaching, and learning
- Believe that if students develop solid foundational skills in elementary school, especially
  in the early years (K-2), they will become lifelong learners and have a successful life. It's
  my airplane analogy; if we build them strong in grades K-5, they will fly in grades 6-12
  and beyond
- Believe that relationships, hard work, and communication are the keys to success. I was
  proud that our school was able to help our students exceed growth and also achieve
  high proficiency scores on the NC End of Grade test year after year.
- During my tenure as principal of Union, our school won two national awards:

\*2017 National Title 1 Distinguished

School Award for sustained high achievement \*2019 National Blue Ribbon School

for High Student Achievement awarded by the US Dept. of Education

## My Goals for BCS Board of Education

- 1. Implement Pre-K programs throughout our district to provide all pre-k students the opportunity to gain the needed skills to be successful in kindergarten.
- 2. Provide additional support staff (teacher assistants) in grades K-1 classrooms to support teaching and learning of early literacy and numeracy skills. This will provide more hands-on support for our children and provide them a strong foundation.
- 3. Ensure that Brunswick County Schools is competitive with surrounding districts regarding the hiring and retaining of staff.

I appreciate your support and will work hard for our students, staff, parents, and county.

If elected, WATCH US GROW!