

Chris Bunce—Candidate for Area 5

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<https://www.facebook.com/chrisbunceforclkschoolboard>

What motivated you to run for election to the Clarkston School Board, and what will be your top three priorities if elected? (Limit 4,000 characters)

For 17 years, I have supported Clk education. Mike Sperry recommended that I join the school board in March 2022 after a director resigned, so I applied and was accepted by the board. I have always volunteered at school organizations and since my sons have graduated, the school board seemed like the next logical step to continue to support Clk education. I also wanted to see a new CHS built or greatly improved. That would be one of my top 3 priorities. Since the bond did not pass, and I believe that we need to do something with CHS sooner rather than later, I'd like to gather a team of contractors and local community members with commercial construction experience to determine our options regarding renovating CHS. My 2nd priority is to continue to add tech classes and certification classes to our HS class choices. My 3rd priority is to improve communication with the community. There are many great accomplishments by students and educators within our schools, and we need to get that out to our community.

Do you support significant reinvestment in Clarkston High School, and what facility improvements does "significant reinvestment" mean to you? (Limit 4,000 characters)

Yes! We need new science labs, new CTE, gender neutral bathrooms, new locker rooms. We need an area to provide some type of social services to our students i.e. food bank, clothing, etc. JROTC deserves a better classroom and storage. We need to reduce the number of entry doors. We need new bleachers at the football field - someone will fall thru soon. Many classes could probably use a new ceiling to remove old, moldy tiles.

How would you go about securing voter approval to fund significant reinvestment in Clarkston High School? (Limit 4,000 characters)

I would increase outreach to our community, whether it be a newsletter, monthly email, quarterly newspaper article, etc to discuss plans for a "new" CHS. As much as they are sometimes painful, I would hold some town hall meetings so taxpayers feel heard. I would secure as much funding ahead of time (donations, sponsorships, grants) to show the taxpayer that we are looking at other revenue sources. I would also provide more "open houses" of the high school so that everyone gets a complete tour of the campus to further understand the changes needed. If the changes at CHS are to be done in phases, then capital levies may provide an opportunity to complete the work and show the community how these changes are positively impacting the high school. This may encourage voters to approve future phase renovations.

What other qualifications or involvement in our community have prepared you to serve on the Clarkston School Board (Limit 4,000 characters)

For 17 years now, I have worked to promote and enhance Clarkston education whether as a volunteer or an employee:

Yes for CHS Clarkston School Board Candidate Questionnaire and Candidate Responses

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- Heights Elem PTA – 9 yrs
 - Pres (2 yrs) & Treasurer (2 yrs)
 - Co-founder of Hawkathon Fun Run Fundraiser
- Lincoln Middle School PTO – 5 yrs
 - Pres (3 yrs) & Fundraiser chair
 - CHS Boosters – 5 yrs
- Math tutor
- Clarkston Education Foundation – 13 yrs
 - Pres (4 yrs) & Treasurer (6 yrs)
 - Cofounded the Dual Credit Access Program to sponsor high schoolers to gain dual credit
 - Organized access to grants for the Clk teachers
 - Organized access to scholarships for CHS seniors
- Lincoln Middle School – employed 4 yrs
 - Library assistant o AVID program assistant
 - Provided me with firsthand experience of the various needs of our students

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Rick Hanks—Candidate for Area 1

rmhnks@gmail.com

What motivated you to run for election to the Clarkston School Board, and what will be your top three priorities if elected? (Limit 4,000 characters)

When I witnessed current board failing to address known problems & major issues presented by the public, I felt compelled to run. 1. High school & possibly other school buildings are not safe & secure. On May 9th, high school went into lockdown for active shooter threat. Major lapse in communication resulted in confusion/chaos & principal, superintendent, parents, & others not knowing what was happening or what to do. June 23rd, I met with LaMunyan and Knowlton about school safety and security. I presented plans in writing to solve many issues, including communication, saving lives when seconds count. Why not fix the issues? 2. I am concerned about that 1 student who is passed grade to grade & graduating without meeting standards in 1 or more core subjects, English language arts (ELA), math, & science. What effect does it have on that student's self-esteem, confidence, and ability to hold down a job. Clarkston's school district's report card at K12.wa.us shows since 2014-15, excluding covid's 2019-20, average of high school students meeting standards was ELA 66.8%, math 30.9%, and science 48.7% (4 years of data). Why have the numbers been so bad for so long? 3. In next answer.

Do you support significant reinvestment in Clarkston High School, and what facility improvements does "significant reinvestment" mean to you? (Limit 4,000 characters)

Simple answer is yes. Significant reinvestment means a frugal affordable budget for upgrade or new school. First step is to have experts that are not biased or have a vested interest, do a thorough inspection of main building. Some reports/inspections show structure is sound. If that is right, then a 6 yr construction levy could pay for repairs, energy efficient HVAC, modern improvements, & security. Saving up to \$120 million when interest is included. If structure is not sound, then build a 2 story Adams look alike building on footprint of tennis courts (wider & longer), wing to Adams, & a north end addition. It's a simple plan, saving \$20-50 million over last bond. Bill SB5344 allows school districts to fund projects with no interest. Both plans: Seek same type of donation LCSC & LHS received for CTE building. Install solar panels where feasible as part of Washington state's clean energy plan. Make sure all doors are at least bullet resistant. Temporary facilities or learning disruptions are not required.

How would you go about securing voter approval to fund significant reinvestment in Clarkston High School? (Limit 4,000 characters)

This question is answered above. Cost has to be affordable. Plan has to make logical sense with no unnecessary expenses. If modernizing is not doable, are we going to tear down other school buildings about same age? Another important issue is to be totally and completely honest about everything. I encourage everyone to drive by Lincoln Estates at 13th & Sycamore. I went to school in that building when it was Lincoln Middle School. We were told that building was too old to remodel 50+ years ago.

What other qualifications or involvement in our community have prepared you to serve on the Clarkston School Board (Limit 4,000 characters)

As an electrician, I often modified problem systems. I needed information from those who knew the issues. I asked everyone these 3 questions: What are the problems? What are your solutions? If you

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could design an ideal operation, what would it be? Listening was the key to solving problems. On a complex project, a EE (electrical engineer) was assigned to work with me. EE believed that since he had a college degree, he didn't need any help from an uneducated electrician. EE rejected almost everything I suggested. Finished project was at best mediocre. The company replaced EE with a new EE. New EE knew I had skills/knowledge he did not have. We had mutual respect for each other's unique diverse abilities. We fed off each other, resulting in a system that functioned way better than company expected. It was even better than either of us envisioned. That's what a diversified team can accomplish. According to Washington State School Directors' Association, "There is great value in diversity on a school board. Each member brings their varying experiences and backgrounds to inform good decision making with a spirit of teamwork." I agree! The school board needs diversity. We can do better. We must do better. Let's get it done.

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Dan Randles—Candidate for Area 1

Candidate Randles did not respond to invitations to complete the questionnaire.

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Todd Snarr—Candidate for Area 5

todd@lctaxsolutions.com

What motivated you to run for election to the Clarkston School Board, and what will be your top three priorities if elected? (Limit 4,000 characters)

Priority One: Fundamental Education. Priority Two: Safety & Security of Schools. Priority Three: New Facilities including Pay Increases. As a retired Federal Civil Service employee, present owner of my S-Corp accounting business, concerned citizen of our valley, I am motivated to be involved and part of a team of Clarkston School Directors for the benefit of guiding & leading our educators in the Clarkston School district. Most importantly, leading to provide “Personal” Choices, Transparency & upcoming solutions for “ALL” of the great kids we have attending our local schools. “Personal” Choices: I believe every student has the potential to strive & earn a quality type of education where the opportunities need to be provided to all students at all levels from kindergarten through high school. First, and foremost, it starts with personal choice for each student where there is a simple saying, “The more you read, the more you know.” This is a simple message for all people including those who are not attending school any more. Remember this thought, when a person earns something with their choice to strive for their objective, the person feels their pride for something they have accomplished & earned. “Transparency”: I believe the fundamental focus from kindergarten through high school is the emphasis of learning the fundamental subjects of Math, English, Reading, Science, History, & Art/Music. This should be our fundamental educational goals for all students, because everyone needs to know these fundamental subjects as they all pursue other endeavors after leaving high school. If some students can’t read, our schools have failed. If some students can’t calculate math, our schools have failed. If some students can’t write, our schools have failed. If some students can’t understand basic science, our schools have failed. If some students do not grasp history (from positive or negative events), our schools have failed. “Solutions”: I desire to listen to the educators and students about the failed issues our schools can be facing, and strive to work with the rest of the School Directors to come up with more positive policies “Encouraging” ALL Students to grasp the concept of striving to “Earn” an education. Those who choose to earn an education will benefit themselves, not others. All kids can strive, learn & earn their education through the choices they make. It comes from the student and it starts with the student. It’s the student’s choice. Educators & School Board members are the tools to each student, but the emphasis must be instilled in each student. We all want to see each student earn their education by them pursuing their education because their education will benefit them in the future after graduation.

Do you support significant reinvestment in Clarkston High School, and what facility improvements does "significant reinvestment" mean to you? (Limit 4,000 characters)

Yes, I do support significant reinvestment in all Clarkston Schools, not only our High School, but these significant improvements needs to be more of a long-term plan of building up funds & applying for both federal & state grants available to us. A short-term plan is taxing homeowners and raising rents on renters. Facility improvements would include all "Real" Property (buildings for teaching, administration, etc.), "Personal" Property (furniture, computers, books, etc. needed to teach the fundamental education I have shared previously. I am not for high schools becoming more of teaching at the college levels, vocational school levels, etc., but I do highly support the "Running" Start programs where students & parents choose to work with colleges in this program while attending High School. I also support having state of the art facilities including cafeterias, bus transportation, music/art departments, sport fields &

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gyms, etc. But, if a local hospital or manufacturing-type company is interested in their plans to hire high school graduates, I would be supportive of specialized educational training facilities with their significant donations in covering the cost of these facilities. This added cost would come from these hospitals & manufacturers from within their own planning department and not from homeowners or renters. And finally, I do support having secured & safe facilities where I know there are state & federal grants available to apply for to help improve better secured schools.

How would you go about securing voter approval to fund significant reinvestment in Clarkston High School? (Limit 4,000 characters)

I believe in quality education for all students along with having state of the art facilities. I also know of the financial burdens which are placed on property taxes for homeowners as well as higher rents for renters. Adding more taxation on a taxpayer or rent on renters is not the solution. I know this would bring financial difficulty to some people. There must be plans for building a new state of the art facility, but this plan needs to involve a “Long-Term” plan, with a formed non-profit organization 501(c)(3), with volunteer donors, fundraisers, grant applications, etc. I will never agree with additional increases in taxing homeowners or raising rents for renters to build a new facility. I believe to reach for the new facilities and there costs, Planning takes time. Applying for grants takes time. Accepting donations takes time. Fundraising takes time. Savings takes time. For this to be effective for new facilities, there must be a long-term plan with expected goals to strive and reach over a period of time. A short-term plan normally will not be successful, but a long-term plan would most likely be successful.

What other qualifications or involvement in our community have prepared you to serve on the Clarkston School Board (Limit 4,000 characters)

Elected Experience: Precinct Committee Officer (PCO) – Asotin County Asotin County State Committee Representative Member of the State Republican Messaging Committee Other Professional Experience: 10+ years US Navy with “Secret” Classification (Quality Assurance Supervisor) 15+ years with Internal Revenue Service (Resolution Representative) (“Retired” Federal Civil Service with combined Navy/IRS – over 25 years) Current Business Owner of S-Corp Accounting/Bookkeeping/Payroll/Tax Preparation/Tax Resolutions/etc. - 13 plus years Education: BS - Business Management Degree Several Training Schools with US Navy & Internal Revenue Service Certified Intuit Pro-Advisor for QuickBooks Certified Instructor Training Community Service: Eagle Scout awardee at age 13 along with earning my “Order of the Arrow” Several Youth Football, Basketball, Baseball & Volleyball Coaching opportunities Volunteer work for multiple non-profit organizations - (VITA, Boy Scouts, etc.) Presently handling my church’s financials (Acct’s Payable/Receivable, Payroll) Past FFA participant – Placed 1st in State (1982) with “Best” Crop project (Moscow, ID)

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