

2009 Candidate Questionnaire

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Wilson		Chin

2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number):

Seattle School Board Director District VII

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city?

lifelong

5. How long have you resided in King County?

lifelong

6. Is the office sought partisan or nonpartisan? Partisan Nonpartisan

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Wilson Chin for Public Schools

Address: 2903 – 14th Ave S

City/State/Zip: Seattle, WA 98144

Campaign Phone: 206-498-2369

Campaign Fax: na

Campaign E-mail: wchinedu@gmail.com

Campaign Website: Wilsonchinforschools.com currently under construction

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

1. Beginning with the most recent position, please list public offices you have held. Include positions on appointive boards or commissions.

Public Office	Elective or Appointive?	Dates Held	Leadership Role (if any)
Schools First	Appointive	2005 to present	Data committee
Kimball Elem Bldg Leadership Team	Appointive	2008 to present	
Kimball Elem Site Council	Elective	1996-2004	

2. If you ran for public office but were not elected, please list those races below:

Office Title	Year of Run
na	

SECTION II

In this section, we are seeking responses that reflect the four ratings criteria: involvement, effectiveness, character, and knowledge. These are defined as follows:

- **Involvement:** What has the candidate done previously in family, neighborhood, community, volunteer work, employment or public life to suggest readiness to accomplish challenging objectives? How do these activities demonstrate readiness for the challenges unique to the office sought?
 - **Effectiveness:** Has the candidate demonstrated promise of being productive in the office sought? Has the candidate shown the ability to work with other people?
 - **Character:** Do the candidate's personal traits show the ability to take on the responsibilities of campaigning for and holding the public office she or he is seeking? Is the candidate a leader, participant or observer? Is the candidate trustworthy, reliable and candid?
 - **Knowledge:** Has the candidate demonstrated the willingness and ability to learn and adapt? Does the candidate understand the duties and challenges of the office sought? Does the candidate have a firm grasp of the issues important to his or her constituency and their potential effects?
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1. In one page or less, why are you running for this office? (Note: the interview committee will be given a copy of this statement before your interview; at the beginning of your interview you will have the opportunity to expand on this statement in any way you wish.)

As a School Director representing Southeast Seattle, I am running to help create a quality, equitable education for ALL kids. I will respect the rich diversity that all of our students possess; promote collaborative leadership; and work to build a rigorous, accountable educational environment that successfully prepares college students, skilled workers and artisans.

My family has a long history of commitment to public education. My brothers, sisters, and I are graduates of Seattle Public Schools. My wife is an educator at Seattle Central Community College. We have four Seattle public school kids and would bring the perspective of sixteen cumulative years at Kimball Elementary, Mercer and Hamilton Middle School, and Franklin High.

The Seattle School Board is composed of diverse individuals. I believe in strength and wisdom through diversity and I would bring a unique set of cultural and professional skills to the Board.

2. Describe your most important personal characteristics or traits as they relate to the office you seek.

Professionally, I am a research scientist at the University of Washington and would bring a scientist's training in objectivity and evidenced based analysis to inform decision making.

I am collaborative and respectful. These are traits that can lead to better informed and supported resolution of problem issues before the Seattle School board.

Dedication and persistence are important attributes to building a successful school community. My wife and I are dedicated to building a strong public educational system.

Decisiveness is a characteristic that I have cultivated over the years through my roles as a parent, a sports coach, and referee.

3. Please describe, in sufficient detail, one to three accomplishments or contributions of which you are most proud. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities you think apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

I served on Kimball Elementary principal interview team in 2008. The Kimball educational community had been in a state of flux prior to 2008 and was in need of a strong leader/principal being hired. I was recommended by members of the Kimball community (parents, staff, teachers) to be a part of the interview team. I had been on a previous Kimball principal interview team and learned from that experience that we as a team had to be prepared, forceful, and proactive.

We worked together as a team and in close communication and collaboration with the District representative, Dr. Gloria Mitchell, to identify the candidates that best matched the needs of the Kimball community. In the interview process each team member listed their top candidates. My top candidate was eventually put forward to Superintendent Goodloe-Johnson for approval. The interview process amongst the Kimball team and Dr. Mitchell was iterative, open, respectful, and ultimately successful in installing a strong, progressive leader at Kimball Elementary.

As a scientist I have worked on numerous teams in both private and public industry which required a multi-disciplinary and multi-department approach to successfully achieve project goals. Communication and clarity of project goals were essential to deciding which experimental pathway was most appropriate. In my most successful projects the decision making process was always constructed on critically tested data.

I have coached many basketball teams and enjoyed developing and teaching players at all skill levels. Watching and helping to direct the growth of kids in athleticism, maturity, and leadership is one of the most rewarding aspects of coaching.

Please list or describe current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

- Member of the current Kimball Building Leadership team. 2008 to present
Budget allocation, curriculum assessment, CSIP editing – CSIP is the individual school’s strategic plan submitted to the superintendent, student assessment
- Schools First, parent member-at-large, phone bank, data analysis/comparison of Seattle Schools funding in comparison to comparable cities 2006 to present
- Parent volunteer at school events, principal interview teams, staff interview teams, teacher board certification filming 1989 to present
- Past member of the Kimball Site Council 1996 to 2004
Budget allocation, curriculum assessment, Transformation Plan oversight, student assessment
- Youth basketball and soccer coach 1991 to 1996, 2000 to present
- Basketball referee 1983 to 1985
- Data analysis of disproportionality data at Kimball Elementary 1998, 2009

4. Please describe the duties of the office you seek. Which are the most important duties and why?

- Governance
- Leadership
- Oversight
- Inclusion
- Clarity
- Collaboration

Of the duties cited above, I would say governance, leadership, collaboration are the most important.

Governance because that is the essential nature of the board is to govern the superintendent and provide public input and oversight of the superintendent’s implementation of the Seattle School Districts educational vision.

Leadership because as an elected member of the Board we need to provide clarity of the goals of public education to the Seattle School District.

Collaboration because one can only be successful if you can actively involve others and draw strength from diverse views to address issues and support decisions.