

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.)

I am choosing to run for school board because it is my belief that the Seattle schools need new direction. We need to put staff and students first. As a former district employee I can speak from personal experience. I also think I would be an effective leader in providing new direction and standards throughout the district. Also, we need to hold the central administration accountable for their actions. Budgets and actions need to be assessed and changed. Far too many actions have just gone overboard. I feel I can look into some of the issues and correct the overspending and the staffing issues.

Lastly, I would be effective because I will ask the tough questions dealing with the community and the staff. I will go out and listen to what people want. An effective leader is someone whom listens and is able to put these issues into action.

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

I am an effective leader and communicator. I am able to work with people from diverse backgrounds because I have worked with disabled students at universities, done student teaching and worked with TRIO. I also have expertise in politics because I have a degree in political science and American government. I know how the legislature works. I have dealt first hand with Olympia getting better education for students. I have fought to get colleges better services, more staffing and affordable rates.

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.

One accomplishment I am most proud of is I went back to school after 8 plus years of being absent and got my degree. Second, I have also been advocating for student with disabilities for over 25 years to get them better education and more rights. Third, I have written my congress about how K-12 is run, which led to discussions and changes in the educational system.

4. 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.

From 1990 to 2011 I have mentored youth to help them stay in school. I took them on field trips, job fairs and shown positive ways in which education helps in the long run. I have shown them how important their lives can be on the community.

From 2007 to present I worked with low income families to help them find jobs, do resumes and find housing.

Lastly, I volunteered during the 1990s at many of my relatives schools helping with reading, writing and math skills. I

have also worked with high school students helping to get them jobs and enrolled in higher education.

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

The most important duties of a school board member is to listen to what the people want and to be able implement the policies. Also, looking at the policies and being able to decipher if they are within the budget or if you are able to do them. Also, being an effective communicator is important. Lastly, being able to know when the schools are making good decisions and when then are making bad decisions. Being able to step up and say no this not effective and it not helping the staff or students.