

Brenham ISD Board Candidates Questionnaire – 2021

Brenham/Washington County, Texas

1. Why have you decided to run for election at this time?

I have always been an extremely involved parent and have coached or volunteered in anything my two boys have wanted to do. I have done this not only for the benefit of my boys but those around them. A positive, encouraging influence on kids has a lasting impact and is needed for the development all kids. I felt that running for school board would allow me to have that impact on a much larger scale. I will always keep the kids' best interest first and make decisions that are well researched nonbiased.

2. What key competencies do you feel you possess to be a school board trustee? Briefly describe your background in areas such as financial analysis, leadership, effective communication, understanding of educational system issues, ability to contribute to strategic planning and initiatives, and consensus building.

I currently play a key role in the ordering and installation on oil and gas production facilities. This includes the ordering and budgeting of 100,000's of thousands of dollars of equipment but also the logistics of installation and maintenance further down the road. I must be able to communicate with multiple different crews on timing of work along with being on location to ensure all work is being done correctly. I will take all these tools above to the school board. Making sure that we make proper well researched decisions that will have the best use of our tax dollars while ensuring the best future for our kids. I will work well with current and future trustees as well as teachers and administration and our superintendent to give our kids the best possible future.

3. What is your vision for education in this community?

To give all children the opportunity to learn and to help them acquire and develop the skills, knowledge and understanding to succeed at all stages of their education and equip them with high aspirations for their future lifelong learning. I also believe in placing a high priority in parent involvement in learning. What happens outside the classroom is every bit as important as what happens inside. That includes our families, neighbors, and community organizations, as well as our health, social-services, and family-support agencies. I also believe in growing our vocational education aspect of learning. All children are not created equally in neither opportunity nor mental capacity, so vocational options are a great way for them to make a difference in the working world.

4. How do you feel Brenham ISD impacts the local economy? How can the Brenham ISD board make a positive impact on local economic growth?

I believe that in a small town like Brenham, the school district is an integral part of our economy. Our school district is responsible for over 700 employees and many more openings are listed for future employment. Our schools are also linked with local companies supplying goods and materials. As students graduate from high school and enter the workforce or attend college, they contribute back to society and their communities through both civic engagement and financial support. Our economy becomes more productive as the proportion of educated workers increases since educated workers can more efficiently carry out tasks that require literacy and critical thinking. This goes back to my vision, though, in that we don't only need to focus on higher education, but also on vocation and trades. The more support we give our schools and educators, the greater the impact on our community's economic growth.

5. Describe your view of the roles of the school board and the superintendent. What is the ideal relationship between these two?

In my opinion, the school board and superintendent should work hand in hand as a team to do what is best for our schools and our children. It is the boards job to enable the superintendent to mold the district to his vision but also for the board to keep the taxpayers, students, and faculties best interest in mind.

Are there any other comments you would like to make?

I have been married to my wife for thirteen years and we have two wonderful boys ages 7 and 12. We have lived in the community for thirteen years as well and it didn't take long for us to embrace Brenham as our home. I want the best for our kids' education and will fight to do what's right by them.

- In person learning is critically important for our students' success and I will push to get us back to pre-covid level instruction as quickly as possible.

- A solid educational foundation is necessary for success in life and that also means learning consequences and accountability. Your teachers and administrators should be given every opportunity and available tool to help our students succeed, while also preparing them for life after high school.

- Also, I feel that we should be preparing our kids to succeed coming out of high school no matter what path they decided to take. College, vocational, military or going directly into the work force. We need to make sure that all have the proper tools to help them succeed.

I want to be your BISD Trustee because my core values are service to others, treating all people equally, and that success is earned and not given. I want to fight to make sure that each student and teacher is given the best chance to succeed in whatever path they choose in life after leaving our great school district.