

**Why are you running for the school board?**

We do not have a administration who listens to the will of the people. Residents in 2006 overwhelmingly voted down a tax increase. In 2008 the district ran a bond issue which was passed many residents did not understand this was a form of tax increase that passed. The district showed fiscal irresponsibility with the bond. A bond is loan costing legal, administrative and interest expense it also puts the District into further debt. The money is now being spent to benefit administration, salaries pensions and not the children. I want to be the tax payers advocate. It is time this district lives with in its budget

**If the economy continues on its current path what specific programs would you cut?**

I would advocate a school advisor group set-up of parents and teachers at each school and survey the programs important to them. The board should have this guide then to go by if cuts are needed after-all academics are first.

**Is there a way to address funding shortages without having to cut programs or services (i.e. short term borrowing or a referendum)? Would you support such measures?** No , I would support a line by line budget review and purchasing review starting immediately.. Bond issues are a poor way of raising revenue. Spending needs to be cut no longer can taxpayers afford tax increases.

**Do you support cutting art programs such as music and drama to help balance the districts budget? Extracurricular activities Early childhood initiatives?** As a last resort, however before cutting these programs I would aggressively seek grants and community involvement many of programs currently exist in the city.

**What, If anything can the district be doing to encourage lawmakers in Springfield and Washington to address funding issues back home?** Support legislation such as Proposition 2288. Develop one voice as a board to lobby State and Federal legislators to push for better funding.

**Do you support the current administration?** They have worked in the best interest of the taxpayers or students. Test scores remain poor, they are still on the watch list and drop out rates remain high. Communication with the community was been poor. This gives them a failing mark.

**What role can the school board play in improving student achievement?** Shift the budget to direct education spending, better text books, truant consoling and less dependence on bilingual To large a percentage of dollars go to administrative salaries.

**What are the three biggest issues facing the school district? How would you address them.** Short and long term budget financing, low test scores, truancy and spending. Currently we have not addressed the short-fall in real estate tax revenues long term. We need a budget done under a worst case scenario and not deficit spend. The referendum money needs to be spend directly on reading, writing, and math. To much already seems to be focused on administration, benefit programs, pension plans and salary increases.

**Why should voters choose you over the incumbents?** I have been a controller for over 20 years before owning my own business. I have worked with large budgets and bonds and have the most financial experience of any candidate or person currently serving on this board. As a district we need strong financial leadership The homes values and tax base will drop and they will be back in the red shortly. I can provide this leadership.

