

School Board Candidate Survey

After soliciting feedback from the community over the past several months, we have created a questionnaire that we hope all school board candidates will complete, to better help ExeterPACT and our community understand where candidates stand on these important issues

Email *

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What are your reasons for running for school board this year? *

For me it's all about the kids in my community. Kids are our future a great education is key!

What do you see as the main challenges facing the school district and what do you want to change? *

The biggest challenge I see is the unfinished learning for our students, that has occurred due to the pandemic. I will help to put the focus back on academics so that all students can experience academic growth.

The School District Budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any? *

I think that critical thinking questions need to be asked at the appropriate times. We need to look at the budget with a sharp pencil, in particular the SAU central office budget. I would like to see more transparency in the budget. This will lead to accountability, integrity, and quality. I am a strong proponent of sufficient funding for our students, paras and teachers.

What is your opinion regarding the SAU16 policy responses to Covid and what, if anything, would you change? *

I would immediately move to update the current policies.

Why do you believe animosity has increased during in interactions between the school board, the administration, and the public, and how can the current climate be improved? *

Great communication is first and foremost this leads to transparency and accountability.

What would you use as a model to gauge academic success? *

I would use multiple points of data:

1. State standardized scores (snapshot)
2. When students complete a math or reading benchmark teachers could graph results and report the information to the principal, i.e. How many students in January are reading on grade level or above? How many students are at grade level or above on the iReady assessment? How many students in the class have made the expected gains from Sept.-Jan. and from Jan.-June? The principal could give this information to the school board. This type of reporting will give you the pulse of the school and it would help us identify and plan for areas of need.
3. Parent input
4. Student input (goal setting)

Would you support the addition of more teachers and para positions? *

Yes

No

Do you believe our SAU has the appropriate number of administrators? *

Yes

No

If elected, what approach will you take in responding to parents' questions and concerns as it relates to their children's educational experiences inside the classroom? *

This topic is very important to me, I think parents' concerns should be addressed properly and thoroughly.

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or as a representative of the school system? *

- Representative of the community
- Representative of the school system

Are you committed to a yearly survey of families, students, community residents, and school staff about what they see as major strengths and shortcomings of the district and its schools? Are you committed to publicly sharing the results? *

- Yes I am committed to a yearly survey and yes I am committed to publicly sharing the results
- Yes I am committed to a yearly survey but I believe the surveys are information for the school board and administrators
- No I am not committed to a yearly survey
- Undecided

What makes you the most qualified person for the school board? *

I am a doer, plain and simple. I am a person who acts rather than just talks. When finding out that the East Kingston school needed substitutes a few years ago, I brought in my application the next day. It was very rewarding to be in the EKES building as a substitute, and I was quickly asked to become a paraprofessional. Since this was needed in the school, I enthusiastically agreed to fill this role. Having previously worked at the school, gives me great insight, I understand what is needed and what is not. In addition, I also served on the EKES PTO as chair and co-chair. The PTO events add to the overall picture for our students well-being creating memories of great times spent with friends. I have children in the school district, I currently have two children at EKES, a sophomore at EHS and a 2020 graduate who is now a sophomore in college.

I view things as how I can make a difference in the lives of our students and how can I be part of the solution. An example of this is I recognized the student need for a Math Interventionist at EKES, and at a school board meeting I suggested that the board hire one to get that additional support for our students. I also recommended that we have after school time available for the Math Interventionist to work with small groups so that important in class instruction time was not missed. I am always thinking through the lens of the student. I also think of equity and will request that the Math Interventionist work with the gifted and talented math students as well. The board acted and a Math Interventionist for the students is now included in the proposed budget that will be voted on in the March 8th election.

Finally, I believe that it is important to honor and listen to all taxpayers in our community. Strong, academically sound schools are an investment for all. I would love to hear from those in East Kingston to listen to your thoughts. I am excited to serve my town, and ready and capable of delivering excellent results.

Google Forms