

## 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? \*

My wife and I want to start planting roots and contribute to the community in a positive way. We chose Exeter because of its stellar reputation regarding the public school system. This coming school year, I will have 3 children attending schools in Exeter Elementary. I want to support policies that connect students & teachers that allow for the best possible educational outcomes. My choice to run is based on having children actually attending Main & Lincoln Street Schools. I want to support their education as well as all students attending these schools.

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

The current public attitude toward the district and school board has been trending toward negative. There seems to be a lack of transparency and a communication breakdown between the administration and the public. If elected, I would work to collaborate with the community and re-establish trust between the school board and parents.

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

There needs to be a clear shift in the priorities when it comes to the budget. The students absolutely come first and the budget should directly reflect their needs in collaboration with the teachers on how to best spend appropriate funds.

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

Policies have removed parents from the equation regarding the health choices of their own children. Moving back to allowing Parent's to choose what is best regarding medical decisions and well being of their individual children. Safety can be defined in many ways and prioritizing mental health is equally important.

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? \*

Transparency. There is a clear lack of communication coming from the school board addressing areas of concern identified by Parents, Teachers and the Community.

Answering the hard questions, even when you know the response is not something they want to hear. The Community deserves to be acknowledged and heard.

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

Measuring academic success goes beyond test scores. Yes, test scores are important and a finite measurement that can be evaluated. However, a happy kid is a successful kid. Children need consistency and structure in their learning environment while feeling safe to thrive. You have to look at the child/student as whole, as they are not one dimensional.

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? \*

Fully transparency of classroom happenings and recognizing that each child has individual needs regarding their ability to learn. Parents have a fundamental right to be involved in their children's public educational experience starting with the classroom.

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? \*

1. I am Parent of 3 children attending Exeter Elementary Schools. I believe this should be an requirement for board members.
2. As a new member of the community , I have a fresh perspective & I am not influenced by any of past school board history.
3. I believe in Teachers and the important role they have in guiding our children for the future no matter the obstacles.
4. I have years of experience in communication & teaching working with large groups of people that have a variety of learning styles and diverse backgrounds.

# Google Forms