

Sample Questions for School Board Candidates

The following questions are designed to serve as thought-provoking prompts and are not intended to represent a comprehensive list for interviewing potential school board members. It's a best practice to select no more than 10 questions if there are more than 10 applicants. Your board should collaborate to identify and agree upon questions that reflect your district's priorities and values, ensuring that candidates' responses are evaluated in alignment with your board's established standards.

Background and Experience:

1. What has inspired you to become a school board member?
2. What personal experiences or involvement with public schools have you had that have helped shape your perspectives about public schools?
3. Do you have sufficient time and energy to devote to this position?

Governance:

1. What attributes do you think are essential to be a successful board member?
2. What do you see as the primary work of the board?
3. How can the board ensure that its goals are being met and if its policies are effectively implemented?
4. What is your understanding of the role of a school board member?
5. What is your understanding of the superintendent's role?
6. What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a school board member?
7. What is your view of the respective roles of the school board, superintendent, and teachers in the development and selection of curriculum, and textbooks?

Program and Student Achievement:

1. Do you have any specific changes you want to make in school district policies, programs, or curriculum? If so, what changes do you want to make and why?

Advocacy and Vision:

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



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Communication and Resolutions Management:

1. What type of relationship should the board foster with its community, including parents and families?
2. How would you approach situations where you may not personally agree with a board decision?
3. How would you handle situations where your personal views differ from a decision made by the board?

Relationship with Community:

1. How well do you feel you understand the needs of our community, district, and board, and how would you use that understanding to guide your decisions as a board member?
2. Discuss a time you have demonstrated a commitment to addressing the diverse needs of all students, and how you would continue to champion this as a board member?
3. Share how you have constructively contributed to the success and improvement of our community or district?

Contribution to School Board Effectiveness:

1. How can you contribute to a successful board meeting?
2. What has inspired you to become a school board member?
3. What would you like to accomplish as a board member?
4. How would you describe an effective school board?

Current Challenges in Education:

1. What do you see as the most significant challenges currently facing public education?
2. What is your opinion of the current school district policies?
3. Share how you have constructively contributed to the success and improvement of our community or district?
4. Do you have any specific changes you want to make in school district policies, programs, or curriculum? If so, what changes do you want to make and why?

