



VOTERS' GUIDE

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PORTLAND

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Our mission: To promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government.

May 21, 2019 Special Election

Multnomah Education Service District Candidates

All voters in the school district will vote for one candidate for each position.

Questions: The first 500 characters of each reply are printed as received with no correction of spelling, punctuation or grammar. Candidates are listed in ballot order.

1. Describe the MESD function that you think is most important; describe another one that you personally favor.

2. A 2017 audit of MESD communications stated, "Many frontline employees expressed that they often do not receive the information they need, and when they ask questions or offer feedback on happenings in the agency, they experience retaliation." In your opinion, have conditions improved enough since the audit? If so, how can you build on success? If not, what would you do to fix the problem?

3. Many students and families rely on MESD services to help confront extreme life challenges. How can the Board ensure these families are given high-quality, responsive care?

Multnomah Education Service District Position 5, Zone 1.

Four-year term. No salary

Denyse Peterson---*Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Multnomah Education Service District Position 6, At-Large

Four-year term. No salary

Kristin Cornuelle | <http://www.facebook.com/KristinCornuelleforMESD> |

MESD, Board of Directors (2017-present); Workforce Investment Board, Board Chair & Vice Chair; Director, Workforce Investment Board; Vocational Rehabilitation Services Manager; Executive, Non-Profit for Children and Adults with Disabilities; Foundation Auction Chair, Classroom volunteer, Sports coach; PTA President, Family Violence Appellate Project; Homeless Legal Services Project; Legal Aid Society-Family Advocacy Program; Sexual Assault Counselor; Teen Crisis Hotline Volunteer

1. The most important function of the MESD is to provide leadership and advocacy on a regional basis to ensure sufficient funding and equitable opportunities for all students, especially those incarcerated, in hospital treatment and those with behavioral, mental, physical or developmental disabilities. I favor using our role as regional convener to advocate for sufficient funding for all students in MESD and our public schools, and increase support for our front-line educators, staff and nurses.

2. I believe conditions have improved tremendously since that audit. The new superintendent, Sam Breyer, and his cabinet, are working hard to ensure that the goals of the MESD strategic plan around communications between staff and leadership, as well as with outside agencies and component school districts, are clear, positive and team-based. My understanding is that the labor representatives and management have a positive working relationship and that the channels of communication are open.

3. MESD staff work tirelessly to ensure that children with disabilities and those experiencing trauma can receive high quality education and supports necessary to provide trauma-informed care. The Board is currently working with community organizations to find ways to more fully support families accessing MESD services to create more inclusive and equitable opportunities for our students. In the meantime, the MESD can continue to be a regional advocate around creative funding opportunities.

Shira Newman | ShiraforMESD@gmail.com

My children have attended public, private, charter and alternative schools, as well as being homeschooled. I am constantly trying to find the best schools for them. I have learned so much about our education and alternative educations since their start in formal education. Different children are in need of different options for their education.

1. The MESD helps so many students in alternative education and where the public school system has not provided the best options for the student. All the functions of MESD are so important for this population that has been not served in other places for various reasons. I think, though, perhaps most important would have to be providing education for supporting youth who have been in prison. A population that is perhaps there for various reasons and this program can have the most impact.

2. As an outsider to the MESD, I would have to say I don't know if conditions have improved. As a member of the board, I would spend time with the employees to listen to their concerns and understand what their concerns are. I would use this communication to to determine if the situation in the organization has improved in the last two years. Typically, however, large organizations take much time to change.

3. As with any organization, the board should not lose sight of who they are serving. The members of the board need to understand the issues facing the students served by the MESD and also understand that there could be situations where the family needs to be more involved in the student's education. The board can ensure they are giving responsive care by constantly communicating with families and students as a two way communication.

Multnomah Education Service District Position 7, Zone 3

Four-year term. No salary.

Katrina Doughty | KatrinaDoughtyPDX@gmail.com

I have spent the last decade focused on health education and reducing barriers to healthcare on the West Coast. I am the first in my family to pursue a bachelor's degree. In working as the Maternal and Child Health Coordinator at 211info, I focus everyday on connecting families in Oregon with vital resources to work, learn, play and thrive. I am running for Multnomah Education Service District Board to put students first and ensure that ALL children have access to quality education.

1. Ensuring that students who need specialized services and alternative forms of education receive high the high quality education they deserve is one of the most important functions that MESD does. I personally am most interested in student health services; I know that when children aren't healthy and feeling affirmed/supported, they can't focus and thrive in school. That is why I want to ensure that students health needs are being met so that they can show up to school, ready to learn and excel.

2. As a new comer to MESD, I can not speak to things having improved since the audit. However, I am in support of staff and administrators being able to share their thoughts and suggestions freely and will always advocate for transparency and progress.

3. I think this starts with staff and teachers feeling adequately prepared and trained for helping these students and their family. I would like to make sure that facility and staff receive quality trauma-informed training with an equity focus. It is important to recognize all that these students have had to work through to get to MESD and how to meet them where they are.

Derek Miazga ---*Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Mt. Hood Community College Candidates

All voters in the school district will vote for one candidate for each position.

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1. Factors such as required classes being unavailable, inadequate counseling, or excessive requirements for remedial classes can lead to students prolonging their stay in college or dropping out. In what ways can the college help students complete their programs, and complete them more quickly?

2. How can you support the large number of students with transportation problems and outside responsibilities like jobs and families?

3. If the current state budget does not provide adequate funding for increasing needs, how will you meet the shortfall without raising tuition?

Mt. Hood Community College Zone 3

Four-year term. No salary.

Andrew Speer | <http://www.AndrewJSpeer.com>

I am an economist who works in public policy with constituent groups to ensure equitable outcomes. I am also a veteran who served in the U.S. Marines for four years and gained a great deal of leadership experience. My public service and professional experience as an economist make me a decision maker and leader who is willing to advocate for students to keep tuition affordable.

1. By taking a survey of the academic requirements for program offerings and ensuring degree requirements align with four-year university degree requirements ensures that academic requirements are as efficient as possible to minimize students taking unnecessary or redundant course work. Ensuring funding of student services such as counseling, career counseling, and carry over student support service will help to provide students with adequate resources will help to help increase student success.

2. I will work to partner with local governments, non-profit agencies, and Trimet to advocate for more buses with greater frequencies in East Multnomah County to provide a pathway to bettering student transportation. I believe in advocating for student services that provide child care, counseling, and more student work grants will help to provide resources for students to lesson the outside responsibilities. I will work to advocate for increased state funding for “wrap around” student services.

3. I will advocate for a survey of degree and program offerings to evaluate which programs are under enrolled and high cost. Evaluating program costs is the first step in cutting operating program costs. The other short-run solution is to access the college’s reserve funds which I would advocate for to help minimize short-run tuition increases; however, in the long-term I will advocate for increasing state funding and work towards passing a bond measure for the upgrade of college facilities.

Mt. Hood Community College Zone 5

Four-year term. No salary.

Kenney Polson | kenneypolson@hotmail.com

30 years as an educator, Education Administration Degree, Served on several community boards.

1. The college can offer assessments in subject areas in an effort to help students skip over some of the requirements for remedial classes. Students who pass these assessments are able to finish their programs faster because they no longer have to take the remedial classes.

2. I think we can afford to help with transportation issues by providing bus passes. Also, we are able to assist students with much-needed employment as peer tutors, library assistants, and other jobs.

3. We are encouraging our instructors to write their own textbooks (Open Access Resources) and make them available online. This helps students save hundreds of dollars (if not thousands) throughout their college careers. We are also grandfathering continuing students into a tuition freeze so they can finish the programs in which they started.

Mt. Hood Community College Position 6, At-Large

Four-year term. No salary.

Diane C Noriega | dcdnoriega@mac.com |

What I will bring to The Mt. Hood Community College Board of Education is 27 years of experience in higher education, experience as a former education board member, and current member of the MHCC Foundation Board. Our local community college is the foundation for the education of our workforce and ultimately the economic development of our region. Occupational Background: Interim President, California State University Monterey Bay, Provost and Academic Vice President Monterey Bay, Dean of the C

1. Student support services and academic advising, creating an education mapping plan can all contribute to a student staying on track to completion. The college needs to reach out to students to make sure they are aware of all the services available. Some students do not need to spend a full term doing remediation. There are strategies where students can only remediate specific competencies and do it on an individualized basis, including on-line.

2. The college has worked with the transportation agencies to advocate for better and more direct bus lines that come directly to campus. Oregon's Promise, Federal Financial aid and Scholarships are available for our neediest students to help with tuition. It is the living expenses, such as rent, child care, food, etc. that remain a challenge. The majority of our students work to support these basic needs. The college also has a child development center on campus that can help with child care.

3. MHCC is caught in a catch 22. Declining enrollment over the years has resulted in less money coming from the state. Our budget is dependent on enrollment. Hence we have seen tuition continue to rise. The obvious solution is to increase enrollment by attracting more students from our community. We have programs that will get students into their first job, get promoted in their existing job or retrain them for a new career. There is no easy answer to this question.

Courtney Helstein | <http://www.courtneyhelstein.com>

Occupational Background: Deputy Director, Senate Democratic Leadership Fund; Chief of Staff, Rep. Carla Piluso; Small Business Advocate, Mainstreet Alliance of Oregon; MHCC & PSU Student Organizer, Oregon Student Association Prior Governmental Experience: Open & Accountable Elections Commission; Mult. Co. Department of Community Justice Budget Advisory Committee Community Involvement: City Club of Portland GED Advocacy & Public Policy Committees; Co-Chair of the Oregon Women's Campaign School

1. Through the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), students can demonstrate mastery in certain topic areas and bypass require courses via an affordable exam. CLEP can ensure that students focus on courses they feel are a good use of their time and help them acquire credits more quickly. Additionally, by providing academic counseling and library hours outside of normal business hours, MHCC can ensure access to needed services and resources for non-traditional students.

2. Many services and campus activities that MHCC offers are centered around the diverse student body. Like first-generation, student veterans, and parents. These programs and services can make the difference for students struggling to juggle school, work, and family responsibilities. I'll advocate for students that don't fit the traditional college student mold by fighting for expanded on-campus child care, health services, and reduced-cost TRIMET passes.

3. I will prioritize funding in a way that ultimately recognizes the two most critical components that sustain a college; students and faculty. Funding must be prioritized to reduce the cost of tuition so MHCC can serve as an affordable higher education option for our community. While working on the MHCC campus in 2012, I interacted with faculty every day. If elected, I would prioritize investing back into MHCC's greatest assets: the faculty and staff.

Mt. Hood Community College Position 7, At-Large

Four-year term. No salary.

Tamie Thustos-Arnold---*Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

LaVerne Lewis | <http://www.facebook.com/lavernelewisformhcc/?modal=adminodotour>

Current Adjunct Faculty, MHCC; Director, The Rockwood Center; Business Owner Educator, Taxation/Accounting, Criminal Justice, Small Business Development. Educational Background: Northcentral University, EdD; Colorado State, MS Ed; SUNY, BS, Accounting; SFCC, AS

1. I believe an effective way, for the college to assist students is through academic pathway assessments in counseling, and working in partnerships with high schools to identify remedial needs of future students. A strong inclusive student-centered program for peer mentoring and internships is another possible way. Each learner excels at their own pace, so approaching the design of unique learning paths, with flexibility, can be more efficient as opposed to a one-type fits all pathway approach.

2. Research has shown that the online academic approach has become the means to a college education for adults. Adult learners have personal and family responsibilities, including transportation, therefore starting or finishing an academic study does create time management issues. I am a strong supporter for access to online learning in academic curriculum. When online learning is part of the academic DNA of the college and the pedagogical applications are in place, adult learners are supported.

3. My approach to shortfall in funding without raising tuition would be an assessment of the outgoing expenses for capital upkeep on all of the college building structures. With the growth of online education, are empty classroom spaces utilized in creative ways in partnerships with the community and outside businesses? Second: Targeted goals to increase student access and new student enrollment for on-ground as well as online. Third: student voices at the table, it is their future

Teena Klawa-Ainslie---*Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Portland Community College Candidates

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1. Factors such as required classes being unavailable, inadequate counseling, or excessive requirements for remedial classes can lead to students prolonging their stay in college or dropping out. In what ways can the college help students complete their programs, and complete them more quickly?

2. How can you support the large number of students with transportation problems and outside responsibilities like jobs and families?

3. If the current state budget does not provide adequate funding for increasing needs, how will you meet the shortfall without raising tuition?

Portland Community College Zone 2

Four-year term. No salary.

Tiffani L Penson | <http://tiffanipensonforpcc.com>

I am currently managing a number of programs for the City of Portland, including summer work opportunities for youth and outreach to minority and women owned businesses. I also serve on the boards of numerous nonprofit organizations where I use my managerial, financial and leadership abilities to ensure that they are successfully accomplishing their missions. In addition, I was born and raised in Portland and understand the community and its needs.

1. The College could help students complete their programs doing the following: -Proactively identify “wrap around” services a student may need at outset, -Forecast the number of remedial classes based on number of students that are enrolled and will need those particular remedial classes -Explore substituting low enrollment classes with required classes that are over-enrolled, -Explore credits for life and work experience for students returning to school later in life.

2. • Expand shuttle locations and times to different areas, • Provide free TriMet passes for low income students, • Increase evening classes offered, online classes and flexible learning schedules for non-traditional students

3. All schools and colleges in general must increase their public/private partnerships to meet the needs of their students and institutions. This means fundraising from local businesses, securing donors that believe in the mission, and increasing their Alumni donors. We are unable to depend on state funding alone to provide education opportunities for students. We need to be creative, think outside the box and increase partnerships with like-minded individuals and businesses.

Leonardo S Kendall-----*Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Portland Community College Zone 3

Four-year term. No salary.

Michael Sonnleitner | <http://zone3pcc.com>

Ph.D., Political Science (University of Minnesota); Whitman College B.A., Phi Theta Kappa; FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR (in India, 2010); Co-Chair, PCC Board Committee on Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion; Vice-Chair, PCC Board Audit Committee; PCC EAC (Educational Advisory Committee): 14 years; EAC Textbook Cost Task Force Co-Chair; PCC Small Business Development Center Advisory Council; former Chair, Montavilla Neighborhood Association.

1. We need continued implementation of “multiple measures” to achieve better initial course placement and “wrap-around services” (including improved academic counseling, student cohorts, & career coaching) as well as “guided pathways” (especially for Career Technical Education) and yearly course calendars (allowing students to plan ahead for key courses). PCC participation in the national YESS (Yes for Student Success) Initiative may narrow achievement gaps among students of diverse backgrounds.

2. Subsidized bus passes may be added to the free PCC-owned bus system now operating between campuses & bicycle rentals programs already in place. PCC daycare & food pantries should be expanded as partnerships to construct affordable student housing are explored & one-stop assistance is made easily available for accessing SNAP & other benefits. We also need to expand distance-learning & dual-credit opportunities while using Open Educational Resources & making technology more accessible to all.

3. I have already voted to increase tuition by \$5/credit in June 2019 & \$7/credit the year after (with a severe roll-back in year two if the OR legislature provides no-growth funding during 2019-21). If the forecast PCC shortfall of \$10-14 million per year were without tuition increases, far more than a planned 3% budget cut would require deep layoffs and PCC would be less able to respond well to future economic downturns. Only 34% of the shortfall is covered by a modest 3.5% yearly tuition hike.

Jason H Young | jasonhyoung.pccboard.zone3@gmail.com |

College President, Fox College (2-year school); Consultant working with college leadership to adopt innovative enrollment and retention solutions; Working with colleges to adopt Predictive Analytics to drive student success and retention. I have been on the forefront of driving higher ed innovation. Education and technology is advancing at an incredible rate. Portland continues to change and evolve at a rapid rate. PCC needs to remain one step ahead in order to serve its students and community.

1. Top performing community colleges adopt technology, practices and policies that lead to understanding student needs, ensure effective delivery of classes and optimize student services. I have worked with Student Advisors. All they want to do is support their students to succeed, but they are so overloaded they don't have time. Faculty want full classrooms!! Remedial requirements can be changed!! PCC must think outside of the box and be ahead of the curve. PCC students deserve it!!

2. I have worked directly as a Success Coach with hundreds of students. Family commitments, job and transportation are some of the major factors that lead to dropping out of school (along with finances). Nationally, only 20% of community college students use campus resources effectively. PCC has some excellent student resources available. We need advocacy and a PCC community that works together to ensure students are aware of and directed to resources when needed. Every student matters!!

3. First of all, as a Board Member I will campaign vigorously at the state level for adequate funding of Oregon Community Colleges. The news this reported a 3% cut in the PCC budget. In tough times like this, it is possible to enact change that helps PCC remain ahead of the curve. Even with a massive budget, it is critical to know where and how money is being spent. We will need to approve a budget that is based on strong audits of current programs to ensure we retain those impacting students.

Portland Community College Zone 7

Four-year term. No salary.

Alex Diaz Rios---Candidate did not respond by deadline.

Centennial School District Director Candidates

All voters in the school district will vote for one candidate for each position.

Questions: The first 500 characters of each reply are printed as received with no correction of spelling, punctuation or grammar. Candidates are listed in ballot order.

1. How would you prioritize programs such as class size, Talented and Gifted programs, ESL, special education, equity, after-school programs and others if your budget is constrained?

2. A student's success in school demands collaboration among student, teachers, staff, parents, and community. What specific measures will you take to ensure Board deliberations, teacher and staff assessments and other school operations include the input of parents, students and community members?

3. How will you make our schools a healthy, welcoming and safe environment for children and their parents?

Centennial School District 28J Position 1, Zone 1

Two-year unexpired term. No salary.

Ernest A Butenschoen---*Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Centennial School District 28J Position 2, Zone 2

Four-year term. No salary.

Jess Hardin--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Centennial School District 28J Position 3, At-Large

Four-year term. No salary.

Sumitra Chhetri--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Centennial School District 28J Position 4, At-Large

Four-year term. No salary.

Pam Shields--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Centennial School District 28J Position 7, At Large

Two-year unexpired term. No salary.

Claudia Andrews--- | andrewscr2@gmail.com

Currently I am a Director, Centennial School Board. I am retired from an over 30-year career as a federal employee, 26 of those years with the Bonneville Power Administration, where I served in various executive, managerial and staff roles. I was the Chief Operating Officer when I retired. My executive and board experience ensure that I operate at a strategic level in guiding the district.

Special education, ELL, and equity and inclusion are top priorities, followed closely by class size, TAG programs and after school programs. Implementing and sustaining proven programs to improve attendance and graduation rates are some of my highest priorities. In addition, improving outcomes for low income and homeless kids is a great way to help them to successfully navigate adulthood. The Centennial District has a high proportion of low income and homeless kids.

Teachers and staff are the front lines for student success. Principals and other administrative staff have responsibility to collaborate with teachers/staff to reflect the priorities of the district which are intended to improve student success. Constant feedback loops and routine check-ins assure that no kids fall through the cracks. As a board member, I ensure that the administration understands my commitment to student success through the long-term strategy and focused decision making

Students and staff must feel safe or learning can be significantly compromised. Through my involvement on the facilities committee, I ensure that safety is of utmost importance. I also serve of the energy and wellness committee. Through this team we assure that kids have healthy opportunities and enjoy their schools days. I intend to continue to be a driver on these teams as they continue their good work.

Amanda L Schroeder--- | ElectAmandaSchroeder@gmail.com

Multnomah Education Services Division Superintendent Search Committee Member (2016); National VA Council Bargaining Team, Article 67 Master Agreement between American Federation of Government Employees and Department of Veterans Affairs (2011) Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits Administration, Portland VA Regional Office Congressional Liaison (2007-2009); Federal Government Employee (2005-2018); AFGE Human Rights Committee (2011-2016) United States Army (2000-2003)

Priorities would be triaged as appropriate according to immediate needs first - safety for students and staff; no hungry students; SUN programs, ESL, special education. Talented and Gifted programs. If we were looking to really pare down expenses, I would look to see what community NGOs or non-profits may be able to fill those needs, or to team up with other school districts. I am also a firm believer in having strong grant writing skills to keep all programs currently available and growing!

As a board member, I would look to meet with community members in various levels of leadership in the Centennial School District to include NGOs, faith-based organizations, labor unions, chamber of commerce to determine common interests and to see where we can improve services to the communities where our students live.

I think that our greatest strength in our diversity, and honoring this diversity informs policies that will make Centennial School District the healthiest, most welcoming, and safest environment for our students and their families.

Corbett School District Director Candidates

All voters in the school district will vote for one candidate for each position.

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1. How would you prioritize programs such as class size, Talented and Gifted programs, ESL, special education, equity, after-school programs and others if your budget is constrained?

2. A student's success in school demands collaboration among student, teachers, staff, parents, and community. What specific measures will you take to ensure Board deliberations, teacher and staff assessments and other school operations include the input of parents, students and community members?

3. How will you make our schools a healthy, welcoming and safe environment for children and their parents?

Corbett School District 39 Position 1

Four-year term. No salary.

Marguerite Perry--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Todd Redfern--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Corbett School District 39 Position 6

Four-year term. No salary.

Charlie O'Neil--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Cless Woodward | cless@wtc-inc.com

I am currently involved as one of the founding members of IC3S in Corbett. My career of over 21 years has been centered in the construction field with extensive experience in budgeting, cost estimating, management of projects, claims resolutions, problem solving, and creating new ways of thinking to achieve success in all of our projects. I have also been involved as the Corbett Booster Club President and also have coached football at Corbett.

1. Budget constraints in school districts are an ongoing issue that needs to be corrected at the state level. My focus is and always will be on providing the students with the best environment where they can achieve at high levels. A big part of that is class size, however, with tight budgets, it is difficult to maintain an adequate teaching staff to help reduce class size. The programs that you offer must help balance that out. I feel strongly about activities for students outside of class.

2. As a founding member of the Corbett IC3S group, it has always been my goal and will continue to be if elected to the school board, to develop a trusting and open relationship between the school district and the community. IC3S has done a great job starting this process, and I will keep that momentum going. If the students feel that the community has their best interest at heart, I believe that will show in their performance. Support for our kids is crucial to their education.

3. The schools are or should be the heart of the community, a place with everyone feels pride and a feeling of coming together. This is especially true in a small school district like Corbett. The answer to the question, bring the community and schools together by sharing in a vision and values committee statement. My plan is to help the process of the visions and values committee and see that the board listens and implements the communities desires in the future planning of our schools.

Corbett School District 39 Position 7

Four-year term. No salary.

Katey (Rickert) Kinnear | kkinnear@corbett.k12.or.us

4 years' service on Corbett School Board, many school board education conferences.

1. I would focus on keeping class sizes low, I believe over 30 kids in a class hinders the learning process of the students. TAG, ESL and SPED are required programs so they would have to stay in the budget. If after-school programs had to be cut then we would look for help from our Boosters program to see how they could help fulfill the need of after school programs that are very popular with in our community.

2. We are in the process right now of deliberations with the School Board, Teachers, Staff, Parents and Community with how we should process with our school size, what a bond should look like and if we should go to a Charter School. We had an outside third party evaluate our school and he provided an insight and gave recommendations to what he thinks would work for our district. We value the input of all who is involved and how it will effect the future of all the children who attend our district.

3. You need to have a supportive School Board that believes in the Administration, Teachers and Staff. There should be a plan in place to make the school feel safe and welcoming to the students. The school should have the latest technological advances to increase the effectiveness in safety & learning. When a child feels unsafe and unwelcome they close off from their environment and do not participate. Every student deserves a healthy learning environment.

Tessie Adams---

I think the most important qualification I have is my desire to find a common and equitable solution to the challenges facing our district. I have experience with the education system being an educator myself and as a Paramedic for 27 years I have developed excellent communication and conflict resolution skills

1. Corbett School district is facing changes and challenges that will have lasting effects for potentially decades. We need to change the direction of the district. We can no longer realistically sustain the student population we have and must through 12 years of attrition reduce our student numbers to a more realistic level. This gives us more flexibility to offer true STEM programs, allows us to be more competitive athletically and keep our multi-grade class size small and manageable.

2. Previous boards have had the reputation of being secretive and of refusing to communicate. Student, parent and community input must be part of Teacher and Superintendent evaluations. I want to build a bridge between the community and district again so we can give our children the best education possible. I want everything the board does, unless the topic is protected by law, easily researched on the boards web page. Board minutes and all questions with their answers posted in a timely manner.

3. In the past the District/Administration has violated the trust of the community. The Board must show the community they will not repeat or allow the mistakes of the past. Our District needs a bond to make the schools safer but Full disclosure of where the funds will go is a must. The direction the board takes must reflect the needs of the students and community not he desires of a few. All options; new school, upgrade existing or something else must have community trust and support to succeed.

David Douglas School District Director Candidates

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2. A student's success in school demands collaboration among student, teachers, staff, parents, and community. What specific measures will you take to ensure Board deliberations, teacher and staff assessments and other school operations include the input of parents, students and community members?

3. How will you make our schools a healthy, welcoming and safe environment for children and their parents?

David Douglas School District 40, Position 1

Two-year unexpired term. No salary.

Donna Barber---Candidate did not respond by deadline.

David Douglas School District 40, Position 4

Four-year term. No salary.

Sahar Yarjani Muranovic | <http://www.sahar4office.com> |

Former Volunteer and Training Coordinator at the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO); Community Organizer; Committee Member of the Community Involvement Committee with Multnomah County; First-Generation Immigrant

1. I believe we need to take a serious look at our school budgets and see how much is being spent on penalizing measures versus restorative and transformational measures. Around 1 in 5 students in the David Douglas School District are ESL learners, many of which struggling under the US education system. This is why after-school programs, representational school administrators and educators, and ESL resources are crucial. Equity and restorative justice measures are something I will focus on.

2. As an immigrant, I know firsthand how difficult it can be moving to a new country and adjusting to its school system. Our communities are diverse and may have interacted with their children's schools differently back home. Having worked at IRCO, I spoke to many immigrant and refugee parents who didn't know how to get involved. We have to meet our different communities where they are at, and make sure outreach is being done in a varied and accessible way, so that all feel welcome.

3. I believe restorative justice should be the cornerstone of our schools' policies, and not used as a reactionary tool once a situation arises. School administrators, educators, and students alike need to be educated on anti-bullying, as well as intersecting systems of oppression and how they manifest. I believe people are experts of their own experiences and we have to ensure our marginalized youth and their communities are heard and protected.

David Douglas School District 40, Position 5

Four-year term. No salary

Aaron Barrow | <http://aaron4schoolboard.com>

12 Years Experience Mental Health Field 13 Years of Civil Service Experience Bachelors Degree in Psychology USAF Veteran

1. Advocacy and education will be key during budget debates. These programs add an enormous amount of value to the education that we are able to offer. As a school board member, I can help to educate the general public, members of the budgeting committee and district leadership as to the importance of these programs. I will be able to use my voice and vote as a board member to emphasis prioritizing programs like these.

2. It is the power of community and connection that gives our kids the tools that they need to thrive in school. Creating and maintaining dialogue with parents, students and community members is a major challenge. I will advocate for the use of the powerful digital tools available to us in reaching out to them. I will use my position on the board to amplify the voices of the people that do reach out to us. I will also emphasize the importance of creating safe and welcoming connection spaces.

3. The more we get to know each other the safer and more empowered we feel. As a board member I will create a dialogue with teachers and other front-line staff members. I will talk with parents and students about the kind of academic communities that they need to thrive. I will create partnerships with first-responders, civic and county organizations, gaining insight from their unique perspectives. I will talk with the people that make our community flourish.

Timothy I Crawley | <http://www.crawleyfororegon.com>

I have been an attorney for seven years and am licensed in Oregon and California. My practice spans personal injury, business, and real estate law. My specialization is in conflict resolution, negotiation, and mediation. I attended the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. I have degrees in both Economics and Studio Art from Williams College. I have worked for the Federal Reserve Bank and have a working knowledge of macro-economic policy.

1. Funding should prioritize programs that most directly affect student preparation for post-secondary work and education for students of all backgrounds. David Douglas School District has existing programs that benefit students in this way including data generation; Career Technical Education ("CTE") and concentrations; early childhood development, and access to academic counseling which can provide students, especially students at-risk of not graduating, with adequate connections to stay engaged.

2. In my work as an attorney, I have specialized in multi-party disputes and negotiations. A solid decision draws and relies upon the interests of all parties at the table. When one neglects an interest-holder, that leg of the stool is substantially weakened and is less likely to hold up under the test of scrutiny and time. I will employ rigorous listening; make myself available to the public, the student body, and to teachers and staff; and seek collaboration with community partners.

3. David Douglas School District is one of the most diverse districts in our state. I will support the recognition of culturally diverse approaches to education, recognition for our immigrant communities, and sensitivity towards our most vulnerable students. I will support ESL programs as they are essential to integrating our more vulnerable students and look for ways we may enhance our performance in ESL programs, perhaps by broadening other successful programs to include ESL components.

David Douglas School District 40, Position 7

Four-year term. No salary.

Frieda Christopher--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Gresham-Barlow School District Director Candidates

All voters in the school district will vote for one candidate for each position.

Questions: The first 500 characters of each reply are printed as received with no correction of spelling, punctuation or grammar. Candidates are listed in ballot order.

1. How would you prioritize programs such as class size, Talented and Gifted programs, ESL, special education, equity, after-school programs and others if your budget is constrained?

2. A student's success in school demands collaboration among student, teachers, staff, parents, and community. What specific measures will you take to ensure Board deliberations, teacher and staff assessments and other school operations include the input of parents, students and community members?

3. How will you make our schools a healthy, welcoming and safe environment for children and their parents?

Gresham-Barlow School District 10J Position 1, Zone 1

Four-year term. No salary.

Jeff Gibbs--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Gresham-Barlow School District 10J Position 2, Zone 3

Four-year term. No salary.

Kris Howatt--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Mayra L Gómez | <http://gomezforkids.com>

Occupational Background: Federal Programs Coordinator, Assistant Principal, AVID Coordinator, MS and HS ELD and Social Studies teacher, Migrant Education Summer School Teacher, Educational Background: Doctor of Education in Leadership & Curriculum Development-Lewis & Clark College, Master of Urban Education-UCLA, Bachelor of Science & Bachelor of Arts-University of Oregon

1. Equity is at the forefront of all decisions made regarding educational policy. When making decisions its necessary to identify disparities and include the voices of those experiencing disparities.

2. Effective communication is key to collaboration. In my experience face to face communication is the most effective and most powerful. As an educator, I prioritize creating safe spaces and building relationships with students, teachers, staff, parents and community members. I'm conscious that not everyone can attend meetings. I make myself accessible through other means of communication; phone, email and home visits. Lastly, I make sure to provide interpretation services when needed.

3. Creating healthy, welcoming and safe schools requires collaboration with all stakeholders. It is imperative to building positive relationships with students and their families. Schools need to know where students are coming from and what their lives are when they are not in school. Only when we know our kids can we provide wraparound services that meet each individual student's needs.

Gresham-Barlow School District 10J Position 7, At-Large

Four-year term. No salary

Amanda Orozco-Beach | <http://facebook.com/amandaorozcobeach>

I have been a service professional for 13 years, where I have developed a tireless work ethic. I have a Bachelors of Science in Political Science at Portland State University, and in my college years I was active in Forensics Speech and Debate. My qualifications have made me an effective public speaker and a fierce competitor when championing for any issues I set my eyes on.

1. All programs are important and sorting them out & prioritizing each of them is a harsh and sleepless reality in our decision-making as school board members. I would personally head to the capitol for as often and as long as I have to, and hold representatives/senators accountable for education funding. Governments spend more on prisons than schools, & schools are funded on property taxes. It's not right that leaders have to prioritize whose needs are more important in schools & needs to stop.

2. To ensure student success in schools I will make time to be available to work with students, parents, staff, and the community. I plan on investing more than 20 hours a week when I am elected because there is a lot of work to be done and there are a lot of voices that need to be heard. Not only will I work with colleagues & families, I will also work with students on how their voices can be heard & how they can participate in the process of school decisions, as their decisions are most important

3. I grew up in a low-income household to a single mother in Utah/Wyoming, as a minority in a homogenized area I felt like schools didn't see or care about my needs since I needed extra help compared to the rest of the students and it was acceptable for me to fall behind. I will let all families and students from many walks of life know that I see them and I know their struggles. Students are capable of anything and I will work tirelessly to not fail these students for the future of our community.

John Hartsock | john.hartsock@frontier.com

Elected – Gresham-Barlow Schools 2015–2019; Elected - Boring Fire 2009-2013; Elected - City of Damascus 2004-2006; Elected - Boring Fire 1995-2007; Appointed - Multnomah Educational Service District Budget Committee 2012 Present; Appointed - Gresham Barlow School Budget Committee 12 years

1. Our budget is constrained and in your list I would say class size but not to the detriment of the others

2. To continue the effort we are in of finalizing the portrait of a graduate. We are engaging parents, community, business, students, and staff in robust work session to hear their voices.

3. The implementation of the work associated with the recently passed bond measure.

Parkrose School District Director Candidates

All voters in the school district will vote for one candidate for each position.

Questions: The first 500 characters of each reply are printed as received with no correction of spelling, punctuation or grammar. Candidates are listed in ballot order.

1. How would you prioritize programs such as class size, Talented and Gifted programs, ESL, special education, equity, after-school programs and others if your budget is constrained?

2. A student's success in school demands collaboration among student, teachers, staff, parents, and community. What specific measures will you take to ensure Board deliberations, teacher and staff assessments and other school operations include the input of parents, students and community members?

3. How will you make our schools a healthy, welcoming and safe environment for children and their parents?

Parkrose School District 3 Position 2

Four-year term. No salary.

Alisa Sherman | sherman4parkrose@gmail.com

Global Humanitarian Aid Work and Educational Project Planning 1997-present The Freedom Project; Co-Founder- anti-trafficking global initiative 2006-present PTO Co-Chair, Sacramento Elementary

1. All children and their needs are important. I believe the needs of our community should be evaluated so we can put programs into place that will best serve every child in their local school. As we serve the target needs of the community, we ensure that our students have access to programs that will benefit their success. I also believe we use as many local resources and volunteerism to help meet these needs.

2. First, I would look at the policies of the board. We need to have effective policies in place in order to have positive communication with teachers, staff and the community as a whole. Second, policies put in place need to take into consideration the needs of the community. We also need to provide a welcoming environment for parents, community members and students to come to an open forum where they can share ideas, concerns as well as obtain understanding and have dialogue. Third, I would like to have more effective evaluation of programs in place. I believe this could be done by implementing research and offering survey's to hear from our community as a whole; teachers, parents, staff and students. If we have better collaboration, we can be more effective in contributing to student success.

3. I believe our schools should be welcoming, not just in verbal communication, but in visual aspects as well. I have been an advocate for recruiting the help of our neighborhood to clean up and plant flowers at my own children's school. I want to encourage this in all of our schools and use the community to participate and help make our schools welcoming and beautiful for all. I also believe that we need to focus on bringing a balanced day into our education system. Physical Education is just as important for promoting lifelong health, well-being and success for students, therefore this should be priority in every school. I want to create access to: Sports, Music, Electives, and Arts for all. Learning and celebrating our diverse cultures will increase class engagement. We have seen a rise in technology being used in our district. I want to create safer campuses, by helping to develop policies, protocols and partner with educational resources and safe technology practices.

Sara Kirby | <http://facebook.com/sarakirby4parkrose>
Parkrose School Board 2015-present

1. This is a misleading question. Budgets have been constrained since 2008, there are documented years of significant staff cuts and budget reduction days. Budgets are skeletal, especially in districts without the ability to pass levies or raise significant private dollars through foundations and parent groups. Public schools are ethically and legally obligated to provide a Free and Appropriate Education to qualified special education students. It's not a priority choice, it's an appropriate obligation of districts and a significant cost driver. State and federal governments do not fully cover the costs of what they require in providing the Free and Appropriate Education or IDEA. The dollars to cover the gap in what is reimbursed vs. the actual cost of provision is a major cost driver on many districts resources. In Parkrose School District 16 percent of students in the district qualify for SPED and the cost to provide these services is 25 percent of our General Fund budget.

2. As a board member I spearheaded an inclusive community engagement project to figure out how our district can get more, different voices to the table. I also support our culturally-specific engagement nights. I have encouraged and supported our Superintendent in his efforts regularly meet with student groups and culturally-specific groups in our community and the board and district use this information in our decision making.

3. Parkrose has taken care of our school buildings, they are healthy safe. Our schools were seismically retrofitted in the late 1990's. Asbestos was abated in our buildings after passing our latest bond. We test regularly for lead in the water and radon and make repairs when needed. As a board member I have supported policies and resolutions that all are welcome in Parkrose. I support culturally-specific engagement nights and district partnerships with culturally-specific community based organizations and equity-focused trainings for staff and board members so that the district may better serve our diverse community.

Parkrose School District 3 Position 3

Four-year term. No salary.

Christopher Sellon--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Ashley Brassea---- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Dave Carter | carterforparkrose@comcast.net

Currently elected Director Board of Education Parkrose #3

1. Well unfortunately our budget already has constraints. This current school year, we cut 5 school days in the budget process. This year, depending on state funding we will be looking at 1.7 million dollar shortfall. Priorities are tough when your budget is spread thin. Currently the legislature is in session, I am advocating legislators and the Governor's office to support Education funding at the current Quality Education Model level as well as securing a permanent funding for source for Education. I encourage my neighbors here in Parkrose and around the State to reach out their House and Senate Representatives and the Governor to demand Education funding at the QEM level and finding a permanent source for Education funding. In the interim, we as a School District can look to innovative ways to make priorities reality. In Parkrose, we have become accustomed to this reality. Working with little and persistently striving for the best outcomes.

2. Every August the Board of Education with the Superintendent set yearly goals. This is where I would start. I would advocate to prioritize the importance of all players in our students success as a goal. Having all interested parties welcome to participate and to be heard in the education process can only help in the success of our students.

3. By welcoming parents into schools, allowing them access to teachers and staff, and by listening to the concerns of all parties is a great place to start. As elected officials one of our most important jobs is to listen to the community. I have had success in this area by going to PTO meetings and community events, listening to needs and advocating for what our families find most important. When parents feel welcome their children feel at ease and safe which makes the school community healthier.

Portland School District Director Candidates

All voters in the school district will vote for one candidate for each position.

Questions: The first 500 characters of each reply are printed as received with no correction of spelling, punctuation or grammar. Candidates are listed in ballot order.

1. If you were in charge and had the power to successfully overcome any issues facing PPS, (1) what are the two biggest issues; and (2) with some specificity, how would you go about solving them?

2. Some school districts in Oregon have effectively eliminated the achievement gap between white students and students of color. What would you do to eliminate the achievement gap in PPS?

3. The Healthy Teen Survey and the Governor's Task Force on School Safety both reveal harsh and troubling facts about how students are struggling in school with depression, bullying, school safety and self-harm. As an adult aspiring to a leadership position, what will you do to improve the lives and futures of students?

Portland School District 1J Zone 1

Four-year term. No salary

Jeff Sosne--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Andrew J Scott | <http://AndrewforPPS.com>

20+ years of federal and local government experience, focused on making government work better.

1. The biggest issues facing PPS are the achievement gap and the need to invest in our school buildings and facilities. Solving the achievement gap will require collaboration between teachers, parents, and the administration and adequate resources for our most under-served students. PPS's strategy to modernize our schools will only be successful if voters continue to support future bonds. I will demand transparency and accountability to ensure that we earn and maintain the public's trust.

2. As noted above, progress on the achievement gap requires collaboration and effective resource allocation. We need to apply an equity lens to every budget decision the district makes to ensure that we are helping those students most in need. This starts with making sure that every child in elementary school is reading at grade level, and acting quickly to help those who are falling behind. Finally, we need to reduce turnover of principals and teachers at lower-performing schools.

3. It is essential that we provide a safe, supportive school environment for every child in PPS. We need to train our principals, teachers, and school staff to identify students that are struggling and connect those students to the necessary support services. In addition to bullying and harassment prevention and suicide prevention efforts, at a fundamental level we need to give our kids a sense of belonging to their community. Great schools with great staff are a smart place to begin

Portland School District 1J Zone 2

Four-year term. No salary.

Michelle A DePass | <http://www.depassforpps.com/>

Community Engagement & Policy Coordinator, City of Portland Housing Program Manager, MWESB Metro Regional Government Senior Analyst, Cadmus Group Energy Industry Consultancy Green Building Program Development Metropolitan Home Builders Association/Energy Trust of Oregon Portland Parks and Recreation Bond Construction Contract Manager Volunteer Service Interstate Firehouse Cultural Ctr. Meals on Wheels Community Energy Project Algebra instructor to incarcerated youth OR Native American Chamber

1. The two biggest issues in my mind, and there are many to choose from, are the achievement gap, and on the operations side, the over spending on the recent Construction Bond, which is currently upwards of \$180 million over target. We know what it takes to help low-income and kids of color succeed. It's a complex process and requires systems thinking and the support of multiple stakeholders the adoption of long-term interventions, and specific policy changes.

2. Several strategies have been proven to be successful: Coordination between parents, educators, administrators and students; promoting a culture of high expectations; and stronger relationships between students and teachers, using an anti-racism lens. And we understand increasing cultural competency and the encouraging family involvement can close this gap over time. I'd propose we move towards doing the things we know work for the most vulnerable students, to the benefit of all students.

3. As an adult in the school eco system, I am concerned about safety in our schools. I'm also an advocate for supports in schools to address the rising incidence of kids coming to school depressed, hungry, and stressed out. Some of the same strategies used in schools to increase graduation rates, are helpful for healthy, safe learning environments. Things such as building relationships between families, teachers and students, allowing time to get outside, opportunities for experiential learning.

Shanice Brittany Clarke | <http://www.tinyurl.com/shanice4pps>

Higher education, student affairs, research & assessment, budget management, diversity education, crisis intervention

1. PPS is anticipating a 17-million dollar cut, which will likely result in employee cuts, blending grades, and cutting teacher benefits. To fix our budget crisis, I would continue to work with legislators to encourage a larger investment in education. Teacher retention is another big issues, with employees experiencing almost twice as much turnover at Title I PPS schools. Developing on-boarding protocols, training initiatives, and resource groups can help educators get their basic needs met.

2. As 3rd grade students who don't meet reading and writing standards being at higher risk for remaining behind throughout their education, we must strengthen early literacy interventions. Students at Title I PPS schools make up large numbers who don't meet reading an writing levels at the 3rd grade. Eliminating the gap means decreasing class sizes, making curriculum culturally-responsive, and diversifying mediums of learning opportunities for students 9 and below.

3. Wraparound services can help students get connected with resources like; housing assistance, health services, career support, & mental health care. With trauma-informed practice, professionals are more equipped to recognize and respond to the needs of students who've experienced trauma. Also, PPS needs to implement a suicide prevention plan that both prevents suicide attempts, & also provides a safety protocol for employees to recognize stressors & indicators of suicide.

Carlos Jermaine Richard--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Portland School District 1J Zone 3

Four-year term. No salary

Wes Soderback | <http://electwessodeback.com/>

1. Two issues that I am most concerned with are capitol expenditures and high school graduation. About ten years ago the then School Board launched a billion dollar improvement to our High school. It is way behind and over budget. The new Board has work to do here. Low graduation rates continue. Test scores are near the bottom. We need to expect more from the Professionals..

2. PPS has the most diverse demographics of any area in Oregon. Students that live in low income areas have lower achievements. Affordable housing would help.

3. We as taxpayers are legally and morally are obligate to give our students a safe learning environment.

Amy Kohnstamm | <http://amyforportlandschools.com> (soon to be reactivated) | amyforportlandschools@gmail.com

PPS Parent, Education activist, School funding advocate, Classroom Volunteer, Non-profit board leadership Professional experience: Public Policy, Communications, Community Engagement Professional experience: Public Policy, Communications and Community Engagement

1. As a member of a school board, we are tasked with collectively setting policy and a strategic vision for the district and holding the district accountable for meeting strategic objectives. We also adopt a biennial budget that prioritizes resources to meet core functions and serve our strategic objectives for our students. My lens is to always prioritize investments and approaches that boost the academic achievement and personal well-being of our students, especially the historically underserved.

2. Eliminating the academic achievement gap and providing the supports that all students need to succeed remains my greatest priority. In PPS, I have advocated for equitable staffing and supports in our high poverty schools as well as culturally specific instructional practices and curriculum. I also believe that equitable access to excellent early childhood education is an important part of eliminating the achievement gap that can surface as early as kindergarten.

3. The social and emotional well-being of our students and families is a critical part of ensuring every child's success. The first step is making sure all of our schools are supportive and tolerant communities where students feel they are surrounded by caring adults and peers. PPS is investing in a multi-tiered system of supports that will help educators respond to every child's unique needs. I also actively support student-led efforts, like school anti-bullying campaigns and "No One Eats Alone".

Deb Mayer | <http://www.debmayerforgreatschools.com>

For the past 40 plus years, I have been deeply involved in education. I began as a library assistant sitting up school libraries in public schools. As a parent of three, I volunteered in my kid's school. Then, I became a teacher, an administrator, a university instructor, and more recently, an education blogger advocating for quality public schools at Parents Across America Oregon.

1. If I had the power -- I would raise taxes on the wealthy enough to fully fund schools according to the Quality Education Model. I would require them to pay at least the same rate the rest of pay. Then, I would make sure those dollars were well spent by assuring that all students, no matter where they lived or what they looked like, had access to exceptional educational opportunities. I would suspend all high stakes tests in favor of authentic measures identifying children's strengths and talent.

2. The measuring of the so-called achievement gap is an artificial construct that mostly measures poverty. Schools that have succeeded in raising math and LA test scores of poor kids to decrease the "gap" have invested much more money and other resources in those schools to achieve results. I would fully fund all schools and provide for the individual needs and aspirations of all children. Providing equitable learning opportunities for all children makes the difference.

3. Teen health and safety is not just an education problem, it's a societal problem. Schools can only do so much. Educators and other staff who are important in the lives of children can and do work together with parents to alleviate some problems. I think we must realize that screen devices like cell phones, tablets, and computers are changing kids' brains in a way that affects their physical, mental and emotional health. We must listen to experts when they warn us of problems and act accordingly.

Portland School District 1J Zone 7

Four-year term. No salary.

Robert Schultz | RES2010@yahoo.com

I am a single father of 3 I am a scout master I am an involved community member I am willing to speak plainly and ask the hard questions.

1. We need a larger PPS board. If board members are spending 80 hours a week it's broken. We need to investigate the issues holding back our schools with honesty and a realistic need to cut ineffective programs, integrate charter programs that are working, remove staff as a last but necessary resort, remove administrators that are not effectively managing the tremendous resources found in our teachers and parents. Sorry to say, we also need to have some parental accountability.

2. If other school systems are successfully adapting programs to service all students then the answer is childishly simple, let's copy what is working. If we have a disproportionate number of students failing from minority communities then we need to stop listening to white people and start listening to those communities of color directly impacted. As a city we hold diversity as valuable yet in our government and our schools we fail to invest in that diversity. Let's stop with business as usual.

3. The entire focus of the PPS board should be on the system working properly. My commitment is to listen, advocate, and fairly evaluate all of the issues present in PPS as I strive to bring forth meaningful innovations commonly employed by other schools. Teens across Portland are investing in a virtual world that is alien to parents and teachers. We should focus attention to this challenge of modern society.

Eilidh Lowery | <http://eilidhpdx.com>

I am a long time community volunteer who has served our schools, the Woodstock neighborhood, and the community at large through art and healthcare organizations. I worked in education through the AmeriCorps program for 4 years in Yakima, Washington. I am also the parent of a soon to be 9th grader in PPS.

1. I believe the two biggest issues facing PPS are equity and funding. Funding has never stabilized since the passage of Measure 5 in Oregon. The board needs to work with Salem to reconfigure the school funding and tax structure. Our state is in the midst of an economic boom and we are cutting millions from our schools. With our low corporate tax rates, lack of a sales tax, and the realities of compression we must reimagine our system to best serve Oregonians. What we have now isn't working.

2. We should follow the lead of districts that have been able to address equity through a discipline system focused on positive interventions and restorative justice. The National Endowment for the Arts research demonstrates arts rich education is key in closing the achievement gap. We must improve access to visual and performing arts in our schools. We need robust Career and Technical Education. And we need to ensure that reading materials and curricula are culturally diverse.

3. To address the many struggles of students I believe we need to begin with our health education programs and increasing the numbers of counselors and nurses in our schools. Educating students on how to navigate these issues and providing support is essential. We also must find ways of helping students who struggle academically to find places of success and worth in school through Arts and CTE. PBIS and restorative justice discipline models must be implemented to ensure students can self-manage.

Reynolds School District Director Candidates

All voters in the school district will vote for one candidate for each position.

Questions: The first 500 characters of each reply are printed as received with no correction of spelling, punctuation or grammar. Candidates are listed in ballot order.

1. How would you prioritize programs such as class size, Talented and Gifted programs, ESL, special education, equity, after-school programs and others, if your budget is constrained?

2. A student's success in school demands collaboration among student, teachers, staff, parents, and community. What specific measures will you take to ensure Board deliberations, teacher and staff assessments and other school operations include the input of parents, students, and community members?

3. How will you make our schools a healthy, welcoming and safe environment for children and their parents?

Reynolds School District 7, Position 5

Four-year term. No salary

Yesenia Delgado | yessidelgado04@gmail.com

Program Manager, Financial Coach, Housing Counselor, Life Skills Coach, College Mentor, School Instructor, Community Organizer, SUN Support Program Assistant

1. Small class size plays a key role in creating an optimal learning environment for our students. When faced with budget constraints, I will prioritize programs utilizing an equity lens that will help us determine how best to allocate resources to different programs. I will advocate for programs like ESL, special education among others. I will call attention to the importance of prioritizing programs like these because they will have a lasting impact on students in the classroom.

2. One of the ways in which we can do this is by having meaningful ways to share information and educate folks on board topics. As a follow up we can have workshops that are open to the public where the district/board learns information from the community to help inform our decisions. I will work to improve collaboration, community understanding and community involvement in decision making in our district.

3. Providing safe spaces and environments for children and their parents are paramount to the wellbeing of the district. As a board, we need policies that reflect our commitment to welcoming and safe schools. Our schools need to be places where students thrive because we have culturally and linguistically appropriate programming for our students. I will also support professional development for staff so they have learning opportunities on best practices for working with students and parents.

Dane Nickerson--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Ana Gonzalez Muñoz | <http://anaforeducation.com>

Education: AAOT, Chemeketa Community College; BA in History and M.S. in Education from Western Oregon University; MAT in Spanish Teaching from Southern Oregon University at Universidad Autónoma de Guanajuato, Mexico. Ana has over 20 years of experience working in education from Head Start to higher education. Teaching experience: Central School District, and Chemeketa Community College. She taught ESL and Spanish Language Arts and she was Adjunct Instructor for Leadership Development and ABE/GED

1. I would prioritize the educational programs in the following way: ESL, SpEd, and TAG. For after school programs, I would invite community partners to support the schools by offering their programs. Class size and equity efforts are not necessarily programs. Those are two areas that required constant monitoring to make sure schools are in compliance. I would propose to have on going focus groups with students, teachers, and parents to get their input about their school needs and wants.

2. Student and parent input can provide a holistic picture about their needs and wants in their educational experience. To be more intentional, schools need to practice culturally specific approaches for parent engagement. If schools are culturally and linguistic respectful, families will be appreciative and they will most likely respond to schools. Utilizing culturally specific community partners is the best approach to get more community members involved in the schools.

3. All students, parents, and staff have the right to feel safe, welcome, and find a place of belonging in their own school. The parent engagement efforts should be an ongoing practice at every school. Weekly parent classes should be offered (for all), where topics taught can include bullying, cyber bullying, ParentVue, school safety, how to better support student's education at home, political climate, etc. When parents are involved in school, students perform better and attend school more often.

Ricki Ruiz | <http://rickiruiz.com>

Reynolds School Board Member (2017 - Current) Oregon School Board Association Color Caucus Member (2017 - Present) Oregon School Board Association Color Caucus Director Zone #3 (2017 - 2018)

1. It is important to keep our classroom as small as we can in order to have a student – teacher ratio that works for all. Prioritizing Talented and Gifted programs, ESL, special education, equity, and after-school programs are all things in which I fully support. I am an advocate of finding outside funding to fully fund all programs that are important to our students. Finding a balance within our budget and finding creative ways to look for funding and invest in writing state or federal grants.

2. I plan to have Reynolds continue their parent/community informational forums. These forums help our families and community members learn the fundamental pieces of how the district operates. In a district like Reynolds, providing translation services is vital on how we engage with our families. Continuing to provide language options in writing and in-person. In addition, we must continue to offer a daycare space in where children can be looked after while parents engage with district matters.

3. We need to invest in providing schools with the necessary resources that showcase love, respect, inclusion, and equity. Every single student along with their families should feel welcomed at a school. Changes like displaying cultural art, pictures, writings, and books at an entrance of a school can really change how families feel once they come in. Art can be a universal tool that brings different languages and cultures together.

Riverdale School District Director Candidates

All voters in the school district will vote for one candidate for each position.

Questions: The first 500 characters of each reply are printed as received with no correction of spelling, punctuation or grammar. Candidates are listed in ballot order.

1. How would you prioritize programs such as class size, Talented and Gifted programs, ESL, special education, equity, after-school programs and others, if your budget is constrained?

2. A student's success in school demands collaboration among student, teachers, staff, parents, and community. What specific measures will you take to ensure Board deliberations, teacher and staff assessments and other school operations include the input of parents, students, and community members?

3. How will you make our schools a healthy, welcoming and safe environment for children and their parents?

Riverdale School District 51J Position 2

Four-year term. No salary

Carrie Spurlock--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Riverdale School District 51J Position 3

Two-year unexpired term. No salary.

Carrie O Banks--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*

Riverdale School District 51J Position 4

Four-year term. No salary

Joe Prats--- *Candidate did not respond by deadline.*