

1. What is your motivation for seeking a school board position and what have you done to prepare yourself for it? (Please include your strengths and weaknesses)

I am seeking a seat on the board of education because for too long pseudo academicians have dominated the control, curriculums and budgets for our public schools while at the same time the drop out rate steadily increases and for minority students the drop out rate is rapidly accelerated. There is a steady decline of minorities on the faculty and in permanent staff. For too long these same academicians convinced taxpayers to provide additional funds, then when the taxpayers voted the increased funds the academicians forgot their promises and proceeded with business as usual. They cut teacher's positions an increased administration layer by layer. When I am on the Board of Education the superintendents' salary will not exceed the salary of the highest paid teachers. To have a PhD for every department and assistants to the assistants is absolute ridiculous and a waste of precious tax dollars.

Human resources for Columbia Public Schools have a reputation for being gay and lesbian friendly. The preferential treatment for gays and lesbians will stop. Human Resources within Columbia public Schools can reach parity. Emphasis must remain on the traditional family of mom, dad and siblings. Two moms or two dads have no immediate place in our public schools. I wouldn't care if all them came out of the closet they are not indicative of health family values. I will change my position as soon as same sex couples produce offspring. One problem with public school is a total erosion of moral values. Education unto itself is not a virtue for the world is full of educated derelicts.

I know of no known weaknesses that I possess for the position of school board member. It is about time someone on the school board is a proponent for the taxpayers, teachers, students and parents. It is high time these useless eggheads move on minus our tax dollars. I will tell it straight to Senators, legislators, governors and other elected officials without fear.

2. What is your personal investment in the school system's success (i.e., volunteering at the district, community and school levels, personal experiences in CPS, etc.)?

The district in its current configuration is not open and accessible to the level I would require to be effective with high technology training utilization and practical application of technology. Teaching client server technology, web site building with Internet Information Server, Active Server Pages, Perl and PhP will never happen within this current short sighted administration. The instructional media department is too busy empire building with their own top heavy administration to provide even one copy of relatively in expensive PC Desktop Capture and Replay software for digital instruction which could be used inside and outside the digital classroom.

This technology could also be leveraged to provide classroom support with assessment. Teacher support and staff support is also easily achievable. The current CPS administration lacks the insight and the technical ability to bring any such aspirations to fruition. Their entire IM existence is an exercise in futility. Then the hand wringing begins "... oh my, what do we do". The first thing you should do is get off your duff and do some hard work instead of coasting along until retirement. You cannot teach what you don't know. You cannot teach what you don't understand.

3. What budget issues and solutions do you see for the Columbia Public Schools in the next five years?

Eliminate over forty years worth of empire building. Eliminate the Human Resources Assistant Superintendent level position entirely and fold those duties and responsibilities under Superintendent's immediate staff. Better utilize technology so all administrators use the same boilerplate of administrative applications and when transfers are required the learning curve will be minimized. The approach and applications to implement the approach should already be familiar if the administration is functioning daily. Right now this administration is like a herd of turtles everyone plods off into the night in the. The people collecting the salary to do the job are certainly not getting the job done. There is no requirement for them to be excellent or strive to be excellent. Again this points to a lack of leadership and a lack of focused organization. These folks are supposedly qualified to get job done but in the are incompetent.

4. What ideas do you have to recruit quality teachers and support the longevity their employment?

Replace Dr. Mary Laffey with a competent human resources manager. Stop concentrating on being gay and lesbian friendly, obey the constitution of the United States and the executive orders contained in title VII and provide employment opportunities to truly protected classes as outlined in Title VII. Strive to reach parity based on the local civilian population.

5. Studies continue to show that parental involvement increases a student's success rate. What specific actions would you take to build programs which increase parental involvement within CPS?

Again this administration only applies lip service to involving parents in the process. They are too busy looking down their noses at the parents. This superintendent tried to sneak a new high school into Columbia but it obviously did not work. Then she tried to get fired up on Chardonnay and charge it to the district. The taxpayers want her to get fired up on educating students K – 12. The taxpayers want her to get fired up on providing solutions to financial dichotomies and not to add seventy seven new positions to administration. Clearly Columbia Public Schools needs a new superintendent.