

OHIO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATE GUIDE

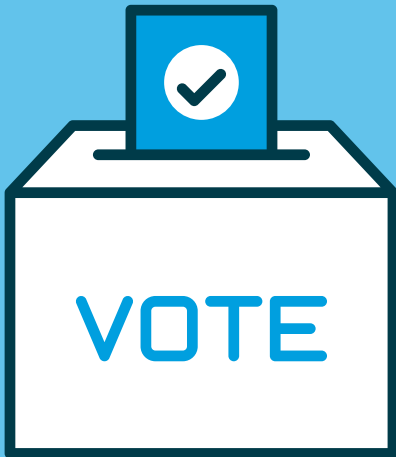
This guide was created in partnership with the following organizations:



Ready to Serve

Note: All of these organizations are nonpartisan and do not endorse candidates.

We want to thank the League of Women Voters for collecting and publishing the candidate responses that are found in the Vote411 voter guide.



State Board of Education members play a critical role in the education of students across Ohio, but many constituents don't know what this position entails or even when to vote for their district's state board of education member. We're here to help! Check out the table of contents below for everything you need to know about this year's state board of education races.

The information in this guide is pulled directly from Vote411.org. All candidate responses on the following pages come directly from the candidates and are unedited. If responses are blank, it means the candidate did not submit a response.

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KEY ELECTION DATES

Deadline to Register to Vote:
October 11

Early In-Person Voting:
Begins October 12 and includes the two Saturdays, the Sunday, and the Monday before Election Day

Absentee Voting By Mail:
Begins October 12

Election Day: November 8
Polls Open 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Check your registration [here](#).

See what is on your ballot [here](#).

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION INFORMATION

WHAT IS THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION?

The Ohio State Board of Education is an executive agency of the state government. The State Board is responsible for setting policies, directives, and goals for the Ohio Department of Education and Ohio's public school education. Board members have a number of important roles and duties, one being the appointment of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, who also serves as an administrative and executive officer of the State Board.

WHAT ARE THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION?

- Appoint the Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Develop education policy and goals for school districts
- Establish educational, operational, and financial standards
- Implement specific educational programs
- Compile annual reports from each school district board, governing authority, governing body, and board of trustees
- Administer and supervise the allocation and distribution of all state and federal funds for public school education
- Prepare and submit annual reports to the Governor and the General Assembly detailing the status, needs, and major problems of the public schools of the state, with recommendations for necessary legislative action
- Prepare and submit a biennial budgetary request of the State Board of Education, for its agencies and for the public schools of the state, to the Director of Budget and Management
- Adopt procedures, standards, and guidelines for the education of children with disabilities



Learn more at the [Ohio Department of Education](#) or the [Ohio Revised Code](#).

WHO IS ON THE BALLOT THIS YEAR?

The State Board of Education is made up of 19 members, 11 are elected and 8 are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Ohio Senate. The Chairs of the Education Committees of the Ohio House of Representatives and Ohio Senate serve as non-voting ex officio members. The Superintendent of Public Instruction serves as Secretary of the State Board of Education.

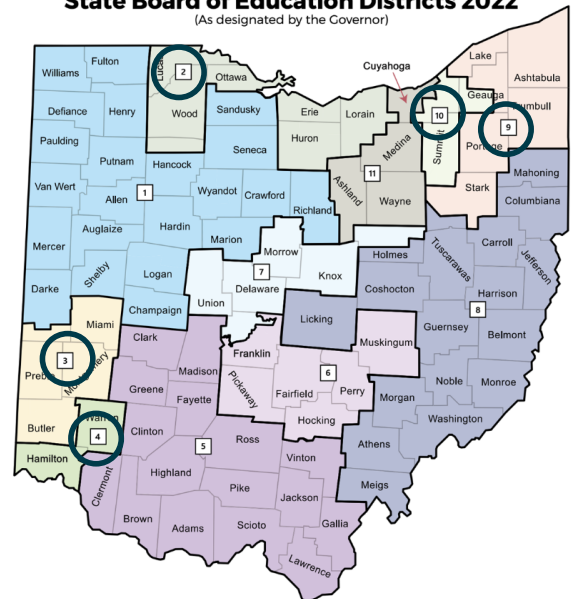
There are 5 districts holding elections this November: Districts 2, 3, 4, 9, and 10. Each candidate is elected for a four year term, and may serve up to two terms.

Check out the map to find your district, or look up your district for any race [here](#).

State Board of Education races are nonpartisan, which is why NP is listed next to each name.

State Board of Education Districts 2022

(As designated by the Governor)



WHY SHOULD I VOTE?

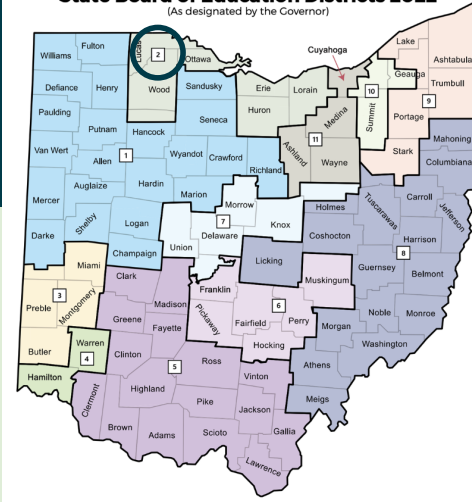
Every election matters! As the League of Women Voters says, "Vote. Our democracy depends on it." >



OHIO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

DISTRICT 2

State Board of Education Districts 2022
(As designated by the Governor)



DISTRICT DETAILS

- District 2 contains parts of Lucas, Wood, Hancock, Ottawa, Erie, Huron, and Lorain Counties (northwest and north central Ohio).
- There are two candidates running for the seat, Teresa Fedor and Sarah McGervey. The current sitting board member, Kirsten Hill, is not seeking reelection so both of these candidate are new to the race.
- A candidate forum was held on October 9, a recording can be found [here](#).

TERESA FEDOR (NP)

WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND TO BE THE ROLE OF A MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION?

The Ohio State Board of Education is an elected executive agency of the Ohio state government, responsible for managing the state's public K-12 education.

WHAT IS THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION?

Ohio public schools are funded by public tax dollars. All children of school age in Ohio are entitled to attend the public schools of the district of their school residence without a charge.

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON CHARTER SCHOOLS AND THE VOUCHER SYSTEM?

Voucher programs, tax credits for private school tuition, and any other subsidies for private schools take resources away from the overwhelming majority of Ohio's children which attend our public schools. Although Charter schools have the potential to become incubators for innovation; public charter schools should be held to the same standards as traditional public schools. These include, but are not limited to, Ohio's zoning laws, health and safety standards, civil rights requirements, and the requirement to employ only highly qualified educators (licensed in the subject that they teach). Unfortunately, accountability and transparent financial reporting for charters remain major problems in Ohio.

HOW WILL YOU DEAL WITH BULLYING AND VIOLENCE IN OUR SCHOOLS?

(continued on next column)

Prior to being elected, Senator Fedor spent 17 years as a classroom teacher. Her primary focus includes advocating for appropriate accountability measures and adequate funding for public school districts. During her time in the legislature, she has also introduced legislation that will curtail the growing problem of cyberbullying, honor literacy and educational attainment among children by celebrating "Dia de Los Ninos," create physical and health education standards in Ohio's schools, require background checks for volunteer coaches, ensure military children are given the same educational opportunities as other children, and create a license plate while providing funding for bullying prevention education.

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON INCORPORATING PRINCIPLES OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION INTO EDUCATION?

A school culture that helps people embrace diversity, equity and inclusion in the classroom can positively impact the school community. When this happens, a school community creates a safe, supportive and purposeful environment for students and staff which, in turn, allows students to grow academically and socially.

SARAH MCGERVEY (NP)

WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND TO BE THE ROLE OF A MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION?

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON CHARTER SCHOOLS AND THE VOUCHER SYSTEM?

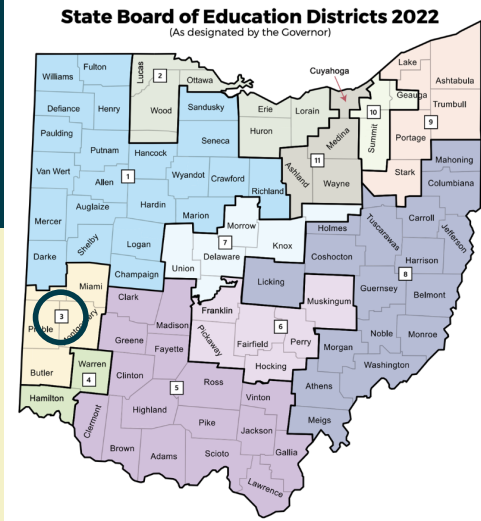
HOW WILL YOU DEAL WITH BULLYING AND VIOLENCE IN OUR SCHOOLS?

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON INCORPORATING PRINCIPLES OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION INTO EDUCATION?

OHIO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 3

DISTRICT DETAILS

- District 3 includes Butler, Montgomery, Miami, and Preble Counties, and the southern portion of Darke County.
- Charlotte McGuire (NP) is the current incumbent and is running unopposed.



CHARLOTTE MCGUIRE (NP)

WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND TO BE THE ROLE OF A MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION?

The member role is to value Children First! With other members of the board, key community stakeholders, especially parents, work together to ensure Ohio's systems of education is cost efficient with excelling educators, schools, and supports that offer options and opportunities for every unique child to succeed and flourish in life.

WHAT IS THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION?

The purpose of education is to cultivate, grow, nurture, and develop each child's inherent potential and capacity to pursue their life's goal. This includes being future leaders who will have a positive impact in, and on, the eight spheres, or sectors of a free, civil society; which include, the family, religion, community, education, government, business, arts/media, and technology.

HOW WILL YOU ASSURE THAT OHIO'S EDUCATION SYSTEM MEETS THE UNIQUE, DIVERSE NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS?

I will be a "voice" for Ohio's children success. I will work together with vested partners to assure Ohio's education system is resourced and supported to offer options and opportunities unique to every child so they can choose their post secondary pathway to succeed and flourish in life.

MEETING DETAILS & PUBLIC INPUT

WHEN DOES THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEET?

The State Board normally meets every second Monday and Tuesday of the month. Mondays are reserved for Board Committees meetings and the Executive Committee meeting. Tuesdays are the regular business meeting and open for public comment.

Use the following links to learn more about the State Board of Education.

- [State Board of Education Meeting Dates and Materials](#)
- [Watch Previous State Board of Education Meetings](#)
- [State Board of Education Meeting Committees](#)

HOW CAN I SHARE MY THOUGHTS WITH THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION?

Anyone can directly contact their State Board of Education Member via email. Find contact information [here](#).

Members of the public can also speak at the monthly board meetings. To get on the speaker list, submit the [Request Form for Public Comment](#) to Alex.Goodman@Education.Ohio.gov and SBOE@Education.Ohio.gov, or complete the form at the meeting. If you cannot attend the meetings in person, you can also submit written testimony and email it to Alex.Goodman@Education.Ohio.gov and SBOE@Education.Ohio.gov.

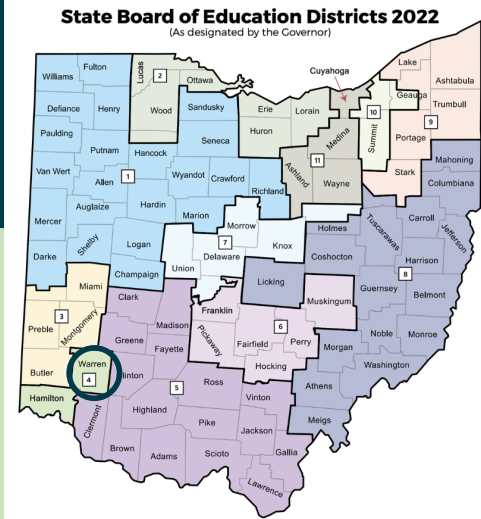
Contact us at hello@schoolboardschool.org with any questions.



OHIO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 4

DISTRICT DETAILS

- District 4 contains Hamilton and Warren Counties.
- There are two candidates running for the seat, Dr. Jennifer Kilgore and Katie Hofmann.
- Dr. Jennifer Kilgore is the incumbent.
- A candidate forum is scheduled for Oct. 26, 7-8PM at the Price Hill Library. More information can be found at www.lwvcincinnati.org.



KATIE HOFMANN (NP)

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON INCORPORATING PRINCIPLES OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION INTO EDUCATION?

An accomplished teacher in Ohio is expected to have a classroom that is Inclusive, welcoming, accepting and safe for all kinds of students. When students feel safe and supported, then they are able to be challenged with meaningful curriculum. A meaningful and relevant curriculum respecting diversity engages students in their education.

HOW WILL YOU ASSURE THAT OHIO'S EDUCATION SYSTEM MEETS THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS?

I believe that Ohio needs to hire a Superintendent who will promote public education, equity issues, an honest teaching of History and work to close the Achievement gap. Ohio must maintain the highest quality of teachers. The State Board needs to support programs that address social and emotional health and looking at the whole child and their needs to improve student outcomes. I believe that if children are respected in school, then that environment will be safe for all kinds of students.

WHAT IS THE STATE BOARD'S ROLE IN SUPPORTING SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING?

The Ohio Whole Child Framework puts the child at the center. In order for a child to be prepared for academics, they must be healthy. A child cannot attend to academics if they are hungry or feel sick. A child needs to feel safe at school. Every child needs to be supported. Only when children are healthy, supported and safe will they be able to be challenged with Academics. Children will engage in learning when the curriculum is meaningful and relevant to their lives.

DR. JENNY KILGORE (NP)

WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON INCORPORATING PRINCIPLES OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION INTO EDUCATION?

My goal as a State Board of Education member is to provide, for all students: 1. Safe learning environments, 2. Fiscal responsibility, 3. Stakeholder (community & parent) participation; local control, 4, Accountability & choice: quality opportunity for students: preparation for post-graduation endeavors.

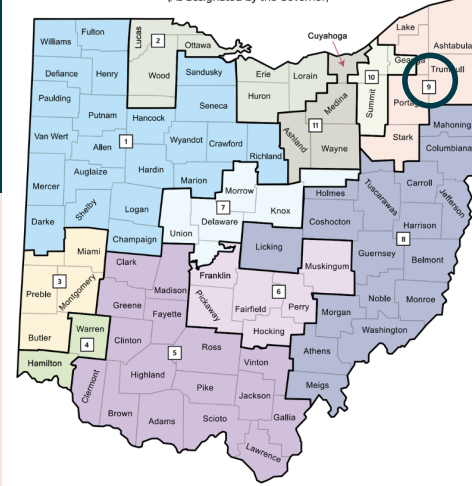
HOW WILL YOU ASSURE THAT OHIO'S EDUCATION SYSTEM MEETS THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS?

Presence & over-sight holding schools accountable, esp. underperforming schools that drain resources from local public schools > high standards of fiscal responsibility to our tax payers. Policies that ensure competent, well-educated teachers in classrooms to teach & engage students. Curriculum policy that emphasizes high standards of education and expectations for citizenship, not to include arbitrarily political agendas. Being cognizant that the Board represents 2,000,000 Ohio students.

WHAT IS THE STATE BOARD'S ROLE IN SUPPORTING SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING?

State Board of Education is tasked to: 1. Set direction for the Ohio Department of Education by establishing education policies and recommendations. 2. Hold itself accountable to the public for competent, conscientious and effective accomplishment of its obligations. 3. Evaluate its work to ensure accountability for its performance through its strategic plan and goals.

OHIO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 9



DISTRICT DETAILS

- District 9 contains Stark, Portage, Trumbull, Lake, and Ashtabula Counties, as well as part of Geauga County.
- There are two candidates running for the seat, Robert Fulton and John Hagan.
- John Hagan is the incumbent.

ROBERT R. FULTON (NP)

Age 75

Education Graduate of Wickliffe High School, Lake County; Lake Erie College – Bachelor of Science in Education and Master of Science in Curriculum Education. Post Graduate Studies for Educational Administration: Notre Dame College, St. John College–Cleveland,

Current Occupation Educator–Teacher, grades K-12; Supervisor and Principal, K-12 Presently retired and a member of the Streetsboro School Board, Portage County.

Qualifications Superintendent License, State of Ohio; Elementary Teacher license, Principal license K-8; Supervisor license. Reasons for seeking this position: to help develop policy for equity funding; to provide incentives for corporations to stay and locate in Ohio; to reduce taxes; to protect our land and water, student internships could be developed.

WHAT EFFORTS WOULD YOU MAKE TO ASSURE THAT THE LOCAL AND STATE TAXES FOLLOWING STUDENTS, IN THE FORM OF EDCHOICE VOUCHERS, RESULTS IN QUALITY EDUCATION?

All students would be tested by national normed tests, as PSAT, ACT, or SAT. Teachers would have more input as to individual proficiency of a student.

WHAT IS YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE WITH PUBLIC EDUCATION AS A STUDENT, PARENT, AND/OR EDUCATOR?

40 years. As a student–Cleveland Schools–Kindergarten. Wickliffe Public Schools, 1st-12th. Madison Local Schools: teacher, 4th grade. Union Local: principal, Title I (K-12) coordinator, K-8 reading teacher. Hillsdale Local, Jeromesville: K-8. Pickaway: 6th grade teacher, principal K-6. Bedford: K-12 teacher/principal; Crestview Local: K-4 principal, Title II coordinator. As a parent my 2 daughters went to public school and graduated from Kent State Univ. and Youngstown Univ.

JOHN P. HAGAN (NP)

Age 67

Education Marlinton High School Magna Cum Laude class of 1973. Kent State University School of Architecture attended.

Current Occupation Owner-Operator Hagan Heating and Plumbing 1976 to present. District 9 Member State Board of Education 2019 to present.

Qualifications Business owner 46 years. Married to Tina 45 years. Father of four, Grandfather of 11. Township Trustee 19 years. State Legislator 8 years. Member State Board of Education 4 years.

WHAT EFFORTS WOULD YOU MAKE TO ASSURE THAT THE LOCAL AND STATE TAXES FOLLOWING STUDENTS, IN THE FORM OF EDCHOICE VOUCHERS, RESULTS IN QUALITY EDUCATION?

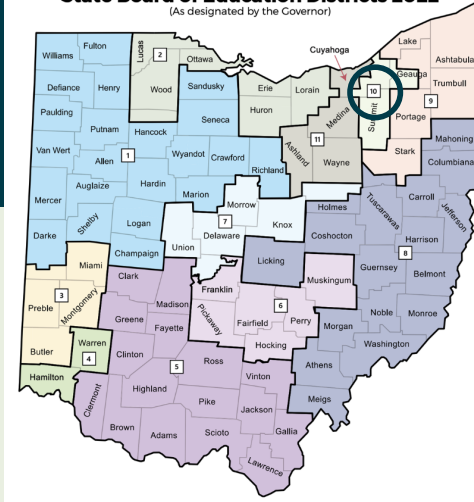
Although it is impossible to assure the best outcomes, monitoring results and advising friends in the Legislature of needed changes is the best way to see that taxpayer expenditures bring about positive results.

WHAT IS YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE WITH PUBLIC EDUCATION AS A STUDENT, PARENT, AND/OR EDUCATOR?

I am the product of public education, attending Marlinton schools grades 1-12 and Kent State University. All of our children attended and graduated from Marlinton schools grades k-12. Public education served all of us very well, we are all well rounded productive members of society

OHIO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 10

State Board of Education Districts 2022
(As designated by the Governor)



DISTRICT DETAILS

- District 10 contains Summit County, as well as parts of Cuyahoga and Geauga Counties.
- There are three candidates running for the seat, Tom Jackson, Tim Miller and Cierra Lynch Shehorn. Tim Miller is the incumbent.
- A candidate forum was held on October 6, a recording can be found [here](#), password is @GECF2022

TOM JACKSON (NP)

GIVEN OUR EXPERIENCE WITH COVID-19, WHAT ROLE CAN THE STATE BOARD PLAY IN HELPING SCHOOL DISTRICTS PROTECT THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF CITIZENS WHILE PROVIDING FOR THE EDUCATION OF OUR CHILDREN?

The spread of the disease is a developing situation, constantly evolving, and contradictory at times. Public health authorities are the experts in keeping our communities safe and we should follow their guidance. Rumors and misinformation can distract from the facts while transparency builds trust. Our goal should be to provide clear and factual information while maintaining a sense of calm.

WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND TO BE THE ROLE OF A MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION?

State Boards along with governors, legislatures, and state education agencies are integral components of the state education policy system. The Board oversees the education policy and offers guidance to pre-K -12 schools. The Board is the governing body of the Ohio Department of Education and establishes the learning standards of what students should know and be able to do. The Board employs the Superintendent of Public Instruction (currently held by interim superintendent).

WHAT IS THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION?

Education is vital to a civil society and public schools are primarily accountable for creating, tracking and delivering education outcomes. Public schools are much more than job incubators; they are our best hope for developing future leaders and unlocking the potential in all young people.

TIM MILLER (NP)

GIVEN OUR EXPERIENCE WITH COVID-19, WHAT ROLE CAN THE STATE BOARD PLAY IN HELPING SCHOOL DISTRICTS PROTECT THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF CITIZENS WHILE PROVIDING FOR THE EDUCATION OF OUR CHILDREN?

The Board can help direct the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) through the Superintendent to look to other school districts for best practices and share with the other 600+ traditional public school districts, charters, non public, and private schools in the state, and encourage those districts to look at those practices to see if they are workable in their individual district. ODE can also look to other government agencies, businesses and stakeholders for expertise, and again share those resources with schools.

WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND TO BE THE ROLE OF A MEMBER OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION?

We hire the Superintendent, and provide direction to ODE through our Board Leadership and the Superintendent. Good Leadership typically produces good results. We help staff to shape standards, and create model curriculum for our districts to use if they wish. We also have the task reviewing and approving updates to Ohio Administrative Code. We should be, though it seems we have not been, educational resources and partners with the Legislature. Though we can not craft legislation, we should have input in Educational Bills. Our job is not to micromanage, which all too often derails good people with the best intentions and deep educational knowledge from successfully taking on and completing the task at hand.

Continued on next page

OHIO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 10

TOM JACKSON (NP) CONTINUED

WHAT CHALLENGES TO OUR SYSTEM OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS DO YOU HOPE TO ADDRESS?

In Ohio, politics are encroaching on the classroom and interfering with students learning and teacher's ability to teach. We should embrace the honest telling of history, provide programs that address students social and emotional health and look at the whole child and their needs to improve student outcomes. We should move beyond the misinformation and hate speech aimed at marginalized groups, embrace our obvious diversity, address the teacher shortage. Decades after the Supreme Court ruled the school funding formula unconstitutional, it's finally time to permanently fix the school funding system. I will work for fair school funding, ensure every child receives an excellent education, that we invest in preK-12 public schools, and demand accountability for all schools receiving public funds and vouchers. We must stop the detrimental siphoning of tax-payer dollars from public schools to private schools and demand accountability now.

WHAT INFORMS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO SUPPORT SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

My first political experience had to do with school funding. There was a group of parents that convinced the school board budget to pass an austerity budget. I was young enough that I didn't understand what a budget was but it was then that I learned what austerity meant.

To me and my friends, it meant we got to ride our bikes to school. Lots of kids got to ride their bikes too because busing got cut. It also cut sports but I was too young to notice but I did notice all the bikes outside the school and how much fun it was to ride in packs of kids to and from school. That was, until we had some cold and rainy weather. Then I didn't like it so much and neither did anyone else.

I now know what it takes to activate voters, to organize people, to demand and drive change. But then, all I remember was that there was a vote and the austerity budget was replaced with the first budget. Which meant we got to ride to bus again and there were cheerleaders and Friday night football again

TIM MILLER (NP) CONTINUED

WHAT IS THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION?

The primary purpose of all PreK- 12 education opportunities is to provide an education for our children that is meaningful and leads to an adulthood with a career they enjoy, which in turn provides a comfortable livelihood from a monetary and personal satisfaction standpoint. This starts with Pre-K options for those in need so they are ready for kindergarten, are on their way to grasping all aspects of literacy by third grade, and in turn leads them to find subject matter that is of interest to them (career cruising), leading to a career pathway providing certifications and credentials, a High School Diploma, and possibly college credits for post secondary tech school or college.

WHAT CHALLENGES TO OUR SYSTEM OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS DO YOU HOPE TO ADDRESS?

I want to continue tackling literacy issues, pandemic learning loss, and workforce development needs. If a child does not have the fundamentals of literacy instilled by third grade, statistically they are not on a path to success. Barriers must be identified and addressed as soon as possible so the child does not fall any further behind, and catches up to their peers. The pandemic has set so many children behind, we need to continue to find avenues for schools to bring more intensive tutoring and more time on task so they do not fall any further behind. Workforce development goes hand in hand with education. Too many employers do not see a high school diploma by itself having much meaning or relevance. Employers want to see certifications and credentials that point to a child's interests which in turn can be a foundational start of a great employee/employer relationship.

Continued on next page

OHIO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 10

TOM JACKSON (NP) CONTINUED

HOW WILL YOU DEAL WITH VIOLENCE IN OUR SCHOOLS?

All students have the right to learn in a safe and secure learning environment. School is simply a location, not a type of violence. Preventing school violence means addressing the factors that put students at risk. Prevention efforts by teachers, administrators, parents, community members, and even students can reduce violence and improve the school environment. Our focus must be on closing the performance gap, develop thriving and engaged students, and build safer communities.

CIERRA LYNCH SHEHORN (NP)

GIVEN OUR EXPERIENCE WITH COVID-19, WHAT ROLE CAN THE STATE BOARD PLAY IN HELPING SCHOOL DISTRICTS PROTECT THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF CITIZENS WHILE PROVIDING FOR THE EDUCATION OF OUR CHILDREN?

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TIM MILLER (NP) CONTINUED

WHAT INFORMS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO SUPPORT SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

My 25+ years of volunteering in K-12 education. My advocacy for education started the day my wife Katy and I dropped our now 31 year old daughter off for her first day of Kindergarten. We were invited to a PTA meet and greet that same morning, and no one greeted us. We thought "WE CAN DO BETTER". Since that day we've been involved parents. We've been partners through her service as PTA President in our kids' schools, her Akron Council PTA involvement, my involvement in numerous projects for the PTA from Chairing Career Days, Co-Chairing playground builds, Chairing Reality Check programs, being the Business Manager for the Marching Band boosters, or serving as President of the Friends of the Arts group created for my kids' high school. These all led me to running for the Akron School Board, unsuccessfully at first. That unsuccessful run led to being tapped as Vice-Chair of a Citizens Oversight Committee for Akron Public Schools facilities rebuild, until I was successfully elected.

HOW WILL YOU DEAL WITH VIOLENCE IN OUR SCHOOLS?

It is a problem, not just from a gun standpoint, but mental health standpoint. We have to help our local school districts deal with potential violence in the manner the local community wishes to deal with it. We've all heard the many different ways schools and districts are dealing with violence, and there are some I personally agree with and others I don't, but if a local school board wants a certain safeguard, then we as a State Board of Education have to have standards for this. We should also have open dialog with law enforcement and our mental health community. These issues are not just confined to school buildings.

END OF GUIDE

