

Personal Information

Name: Greg Scott Snyder

[REDACTED]

Length of Residency in School District: 13 years

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Occupation: Construction

Employer: Wayne Dalton

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Do you currently hold other public office?

Yes ___ No X

If yes, list office: _____

Do you have any affiliations with the Albuquerque Public Schools? Yes ___ No X

If yes, what are your affiliations? _____

Are you available to attend Board meetings the first and third Wednesday nights of the month at 5 p.m.? Yes X No ___

Additionally, there are four board committees that meet twice a month at 7:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., or 5 p.m., are you available to attend committee meetings?

Yes X No ___

If no, please explain why: _____

Periodically, the Board must meet during daytime hours for Board meetings, budget hearings, and luncheons. Are you available during daytime hours for these activities?

Yes X No ___

If no, please explain why: _____

In addition to regularly scheduled meetings, the Board requires approximately ten hours a week in reading, researching, miscellaneous meetings, school visits, telephone calls, and e-mail correspondence. Can your schedule accommodate the extra time involved in serving as a Board member? Yes X No ___

Experience

Answers should be brief and concise.

1. Why do you want to be a board member for Albuquerque Public Schools?

I come from a family of public servants who taught me to do the same. I am not satisfied to just exist in society, but rather I desire to work to improve it. The reason I have chosen school board to serve my community is I have a passion for young people. I have for years served my church in various ministries related to young people.

2. What is your interest in education?

My wife and I have yet to be blessed with children, but we are hoping to conceive our first in about 18 months. But I believe that now is the time to invest in public education, before I have a need for it. I want to be proactive rather than reactive.

3. How would you support the mission of the district?

I will work to improve standards and set policies that promote a high quality of education at APS. I will continually look at new ideas and methods to find the better ways of doing things.

4. What is your past and current involvement with Albuquerque Public Schools.

I am new to APS. Up until I enrolled and graduated UNM, all of the academic institutions I attended were private. I would bring a different perspective to the board because of what I have seen and experienced. I have been a part of schools that performed well above average and would work to bring the same to APS.

5. What do you consider the strengths and weaknesses of Albuquerque Public Schools?

I have been blessed to know some of APS's teachers and they are truly dedicated and caring people. I believe that they are the greatest strength we have. Other strengths are our local diversity, strong leadership from the Superintendent, Winston Brooks, and the music and sports programs available to students.

The major weaknesses at APS is the achievement gap and the drop out rate. Some students leave APS prepared to enter the workforce or to go college, but others simply quit school or do not obtain the full education that they need. Obviously, one hundred percent dean's list graduates will never be seen, but the achievement gap and drop out rates are far too high.

6. What is the role of the Board of Education?

The role of the board is to be the peoples voice in education. Special interest must be ignored. The whole focus of the board must be to improve and preserve good quality education for the children of Albuquerque.

7. What is the role of individual board members?

To share and express our wisdom, knowledge, life experiences. To challenge the other board members to come up with creative solutions. Then to listen to public input. And finally, to stand firm on the solution deemed to be the best possible action.

8. What should be the relationship between the superintendent and Board of Education?

Cooperation is key. If a power struggle breaks out between them, the guaranteed loser in the fight is the kids.

9. What unique qualities would you bring to the Board of Education?

I would bring to the board of an understanding how government bureaucracies work (derived from an over two year student internship at the USDA) and the knowledge of how APS could serve the community more efficiently. When earning my Bachelor's of Business Administration at UNM, it was sad to see how a private sector business is successfully run and then to contrast that with so many ways that that a bureaucracy is wasteful. Whenever possible I want to operate APS more like a business.

10. Other school/community volunteer activities related to the community:

My wife and I are leaders of a Bible study for high school students at our local church. Also, we serve with the youth group at the midweek worship service. In the past, we have taught a Sunday School class for 2-5 year olds.

11. What are your thoughts about:

- a. No Child Left Behind - Is a well intended program that has fallen short of expectations. I believe that it needs a major overhaul or should be replaced entirely.
- b. Closing the achievement gap - More local control for principals and teachers would allow each school to address their unique situation, because every student and school are different and should be addressed as individuals. Also, all students need to know what they are expected to learn and should not be allowed to graduate that grade until they achieve those goals.
- c. Parental involvement and community engagement - An engaged parent is the single most important factor to educational success. Parental involvement should not be an option, it should be required.