



**Albuquerque Public Schools
2017 Questionnaire for Board of Education Candidates**

The Board of Education is an elected body created according to the laws of the state of New Mexico to serve as the governing board of the school district for the purpose of organizing, maintaining, and locating schools and for providing educational opportunities and services for all citizens residing within the school district.

Candidates are requested to return their questionnaire to the Board of Education Services Office, by 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

- Mailed questionnaires must be received by Tuesday, January 3, 2017. Address to: Board of Education Services Office, 2017 Board Election, Alice and Bruce King Educational Complex, P.O. Box 25704, Albuquerque, N.M. 87125-0704.
- Questionnaires may be faxed to 880-2575 by the deadline above. Please call the Board of Education Services Office at 880-3729 to confirm fax arrivals or for other information.
- Questionnaires may be emailed to the Board Services Office at boarded@aps.edu.

**Personal Information
[Please Print, Type or Use Digital Form]**

Name: Paula Maes

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Occupation: President/CEO

Employer: New Mexico Broadcasters Association

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Do you currently hold other public office?

Yes, APS Board for 12 years

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

Are you available to attend board meetings the first and third Wednesday nights of the month at 5:00 p.m. and special board meetings as needed? Yes

Additionally, there are five board committees that mostly meet once a month at 7:30 a.m., 4:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m. or 5:00 p.m. Are you available to attend committee meetings?

Yes

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

In addition to regularly scheduled meetings, the board requires approximately 20-25 hours a week in reading, researching, miscellaneous meetings, school visits, telephone calls, and e-mail correspondence; many board members spend much more time than that. Can your schedule accommodate the extra time involved in serving as a member of the Board of Education?

Yes

Experience

Answers should be brief and concise.

- 1. Why do you want to be a board member for Albuquerque Public Schools?**
- 2. What is your interest in education?**

(Both questions are answered)

I am running to improve the public perception of all of APS, to improve student outcome, and lastly to get true community engagement. I want to serve on the APS board to be part of ensuring that the 84,000 students in the APS district get quality education and have the necessary tools to succeed in life. The board has two duties: 1) Hire a qualified superintendent. The hiring of a superintendent is one of the most important jobs the board has to complete. The work of the superintendent is to make sure students, teachers, administrators and parents are engaged in the education of the district's children. The hiring of a superintendent by the board shows teachers, students and parents who the board feels is the most qualified to lead the district in educating children. 2) The board's second duty is the approval of a budget. This duty is hard in 2017, with the state funding being so limited; the board will need to be even more diligent to make sure class education is not compromised and student learning continues. No board member works alone on the above duties and issues, the work must be worked in cooperation with teachers, administration, parents and students. The board can't operate in a vacuum. With the NM budget crisis our APS school board will have tough choices to make over and I will wake up every day fighting for more funding for APS from the State, and make sure that money goes to our teachers and to benefit our students.

3. In what ways will you support the mission and vision of the district?

I will support the mission and vision of the district by working for the children of the district. The mission and vision is to educate children and that is what I would to do as a member of the board.

4. How will you work with the superintendent? The board hires a superintendent and the board should let the superintendent lead. The board should not micro manage.

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

I have been involved with APS for 30 since my oldest son, Michael, entered kindergarten at Montezuma Elementary. I was on PTAs at Montezuma, Comanche, Madison and Sandia. Then in 2001, I got elected to the APS board and served for 12 years. And my youngest son, Christopher now teaches special education and began his APS career as an EA. I have also served on the foundation board and other committees.

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

The board hires a superintendent and the board should let the superintendent lead. The board should not micro manage.

7. What qualities and skills would you bring to the Board of Education?

The skills I bring to the board are the ability to compromise and collaborate with others, as well having prior knowledge and experience serving on the board previously. This is a 7 person body that needs to work together and agree to disagree. The board members need to set aside their personal agenda and act on what is best for the entire district, this is goal. It is a goal that will bring much needed change to APS for the good of all who are involved.

8. What school or community volunteer activities have you participated in related to the community? I have worked in my sons' school since 1990. I have worked with UNM Children's Hospital, Explora, and the UNM Journalism Advisory Committee.

9. How you plan to work with constituents?

I have an open door policy. Constituents can contact me my phone, email, and social media at any time.

10. What do you see as opportunities and challenges to the district?

The opportunities of APS are its teachers, its parents its students and its community being involved and working together throughout the entire year. Its challenges are its public perception, student outcome and real community engagement.

11. What do you think is the best way for the district to accomplish the three academic goals?

- a. **Early learning** – Early learning begins with expecting parents, is nurtured as children develop language and number skills in elementary school, and grows with students as they mature in supportive classrooms becoming adept at using these skills in a variety of contexts.
- b. **College and Career Readiness** – Students acquire skills which support formal and informal life-long learning to adapt and remain productive through changing economic and job market landscapes. All students will be prepared for post-secondary opportunities (college and/or career) without the need for remediation.
- c. **Developing the Whole Child** – APS will ensure each child is safe, engaged, challenged and supported through programs and practices focused on removing social, emotional and physical barriers to learning and increased health literacy.
 - Safe and welcoming environment
 - Whole Child includes... physical, mental, emotional, social, intellectual
 - Remove barriers to learning
 - Discover and develop individual gifts and talents
 - Use skills to better the community

The best way for the district to achieve these academic goals are to gain the trust and respect of the public. The public will support these goals in which they believe, trust and respect the district. APS needs the entire community to engage in its students and their future not only now, but in years ahead. If the community totally engages with the board of education, the goals will be met. Money is also important and that lies in the hands of the legislature. The board must also act in the best interest of its students and the district as a whole.

12. If elected, how will you work with the current board?

I will work with the current board members with respect and our goals should be common.

By my signature, I affirm that I meet all requirements to become a member of the Board of Education.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paula Maes".

26 December 2016

Candidate Signature

Date