

Do you currently hold other public office?

Yes No

If yes, list office: _____

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

If yes, what are your affiliations? Retired APS charter school teacher / part-time substitute

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 No

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 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 No

If no, please explain why: _____

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 No

Experience

Answers should be brief and concise.

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

The New Mexico evaluation system, though flawed, shows that we are not providing the quality of education our students deserve. We must and can do better. All things that Albuquerque Public School employees do must be directed at improving student performance. All policies, all funding, all efforts need to be focused on student improvement. As a board member, I will work diligently with other board members to allocate funding, set policy and work with the Superintendent to concentrate all efforts on student performance.

2. What is your interest in education?

Education is a driving force in our community. Our children's success, our economy and our public safety are all a reflection of our school system. Our city and our state must first and foremost improve the performance of our education system. Improving education, will have a huge impact on all measures of our community. As a grandparent, educator, and classroom volunteer, I am passionate about education and I care about our state, our kids and our schools.

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

The vision and mission of Albuquerque Public schools can and should be reduced to one word. EDUCATION. It is time to reassess and redefine the priorities and direction of APS. The mission and vision would then become obvious. I will work tirelessly with board members, educators and our community to support the mission of providing every child a quality education.

4. How will you work with the superintendent?

One of the main functions of the school board is to advise, direct and coach the superintendent. As a new member of the board, I will research alternative approaches, programs and solutions. I will explore and convey issues, concerns and suggestions from my constituents and make recommendations. I will collaborate and build consensus with other board members and our superintendent.

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

I worked as a career and technical education instructor for 13 years and retired in 2014. My teaching experience includes mentoring and educating our youth in traditional classroom, charter school and alternative delivery settings. Missing the interaction with students, I returned to APS and currently serve as a part-time substitute teacher and classroom volunteer. I have many friends and colleagues who are teachers, counselors and administrators in APS. I consider them all vital resources to the wellness of Albuquerque Public Schools.

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

The superintendent needs to work with the APS board and the NM Board of Education to resolve all adversarial positions. Conflict among the management teams, educational institutions and boards is very detrimental to the education system. It is important for all board members and the superintendent to establish strong relationships with our local and state officials. Collaboration and common ground must be found between all entities to maintain a cohesive and seamless flow for all school districts across our state.

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

As a retired **businessman** and retired APS **teacher**, I understand the business side and the delivery side of education. This unique blending of skills gives me a strong outlook on what is needed to successfully deliver education to our students. I am also a third-generation New Mexican, APS and UNM graduate which gives me a distinct and well-rounded perspective to the unique issues facing our schools and community.

8. What school or community volunteer activities have you participated in related to the community?

I served as the chapter adviser to SkillsUSA and supported our school's DECA program for many years and strongly advocate for these types of extracurricular activities in our schools. I currently serve as a volunteer parent at Highland High School and school volunteer at my grandchildren's elementary school. I am also a past and present supporter of the NM Appleseed Foundation and the Albuquerque Mayoral Benefit Gala.

9. How do you plan to work with constituents?

All APS business allowable by law should be conducted in an open meeting. Transparency will give the media and constituency the ability to see how their representatives are performing and be aware of their positions on issues. I will keep regular, open office hours for phone calls and email responses to all constituents of APS.

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

The largest challenges for APS are student performance, limited funds and teacher retention. Putting our focus on improving these three issues will create the greatest returns for our school system. Virtually all facets of Albuquerque Public Schools will need to be examined, modernized and changed, as required, to improve our educational system. Every available remedy must be explored.

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.

APS needs to concentrate on providing the opportunity for all children to learn. There are many social issues affecting education. APS does not have the funding and should not have the mission to address them all. Community schools in collaboration with other shared funding entities are being implemented and provide parents and students with additional tools and programs to address some of the social issues.

- 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.

The education that students and parents want and need must be provided. We must also address the education requirements of the State. Implementing a focused plan to retain and attract experienced, qualified teachers, in all fields, would greatly benefit and help prepare our students for college and career readiness.

- 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

All students should be safe, engaged, challenged and supported these issues are always a major concern of teachers and all APS employees. The roles of teachers and counselors is to interact daily with students, other APS employees must direct their support to the mission of teachers and counselors.

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

The existing board members are familiar with difficulties facing APS management and their experience is vital to building and solving APS issues. As one vote on a Board of seven members, I am committed to collaborating and working together as a team member to build an improved school system for our students and community.

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



Candidate Signature

January 2, 2017

Date