



WATER VALLEY ISD SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE QUESTIONS



Candidate Name: Cody McKneely

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1. What motivates you to want to become or continue to be a board member?

I would like to become a member of the board to add some diversity to the board. I firmly believe that there are always better ideas that come from a group of people who do not all think the same. I would like to be a part of creating goals for the district and ensuring that the goals are achieved. Ensure that the budget is set up in a way that looks to the district's future without raising taxes.

2. What has been your personal involvement with Water Valley ISD?

I have a son that is in the 4th grade and one that will be starting school next year. I have been able to help on a small scale with concession stands and running chains at football games. I have been an advocate for youth sports and have coached a few youth football teams and some baseball teams. I truly enjoy working with these kids from when they are just learning what it means to be a team player to working as a team to win. The future looks bright for Water Valley!

3. What do you see as the opportunities and challenges in this district?

Growth is the first thing that seems to come to mind. Some great opportunities come with growth, but also many challenges follow. I'd like to see the district grow at a pace we can keep up with. Not being prepared properly can cause hardship and issues for the students, teachers, and administration. I would like to look at some studies to see what the data projects for our district are. This would help with preparation.

4. In your view, what has the district done well over last four years? What has the district done poorly that you would change?

The whole world has faced some wild times over the last few years. I feel like Water Valley had done a great job of keeping the students learning even when it wasn't easy. I am happy with the precautions put in place to keep the students safe. I do believe there is always room for improvement in school safety.

Water Valley is an amazing place to be, and I feel there is no reason we can't achieve the highest accountability rating possible.

5. What are the outputs/goals that matter most to you? How will you be accountable for them as a school board member?

I would like to see the district goals updated and tailored more to current times. Support the administration by updating and following through with the district goals.

6. Describe the role of the superintendent?

The superintendent is the manager of the district and a relationship builder with all stakeholders. The school board must fully trust the superintendent to operate the district and will look to the superintendent for advice and guidance.

7. If a parent or a community member comes to you regarding, for example, a maintenance issue at a particular campus or a situation involving a particular teacher, how do you see your role as a school board member in resolving that issue?

I believe that issues like these should be directed straight to the Superintendent. I'm not opposed to being aware of these types of issues and following up to be sure the issues are resolved, but it is very important for there to be a direct line of communication with the school administration. The superintendent and the campus administration handle the day-to-day operations.



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8. As a school board member, from whom will you seek advice or input in weighing key decisions?

I would seek advice from other members, and primarily the Superintendent.

9. How will you build consensus and support in the community around the work of the school district?

Understanding the concerns of the community will be a key in setting goals for the district. I am a very approachable type of person. I deal with people daily and look forward to understanding what the community wants.

10. Based on the Texas Education Code, what is the primary role of the school board of trustees member and of the board as a whole?

A school board member will put the interest of the community's youth first.

The board as a whole is responsible for creating a vision and goals for the district to evaluate success. The board will adopt policies for the district. They will evaluate the superintendent and approve the annual budget.

11. Is there anything else you would like to share with the voting constituents of WVISD that you believe is a reason they should support you in this election?

When trying to decide for sure about putting my name on a ballot for the board, I had many thoughts wondering if someone not from here would even have a shot. The more I thought about it, I realized that having someone that isn't from here may add some new perspective. I am someone that isn't afraid to stand up for something I believe in. I have always worked hard to be a leader and not a follower. There are no personal gains for my family or me besides having a voice for the future of the Wildcats, including my two boys. This will always be where my kids are from! I am a huge advocate for teachers and school administration. I come from a large family with several either still working in the school system or retired.

I spend every day of my life trying to build a better tomorrow for my two boys. In addition, would like to spend the next four years working to build a better tomorrow for the Wildcat nation!



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1. How do you plan to ensure that all students have access to a high-quality education, regardless of their background or economic status?

2. How do you plan to address the needs of students with special needs or disabilities?

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- A. All of the above
- B. None of the above
- C. Some of the above
- D. I don't know
- E. Other