



WATER VALLEY ISD SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE QUESTIONS



Candidate Name: Justin Herman

Candidate Email Contact Information: justin.herman@wvisd.net

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

I love being part of a group that is so dedicated to our school, we work well as a team.

I've enjoyed my time as a member of this team and I'm proud of the part I have played in the development of our facility, staff and students.

We have put several things in motion with our facility's that have not been completed yet and I would like to continue to see them through completion.

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

I'm a parent to three wvisd students, uncle to three more and, an alumnus.

I have served on the board for over 4 years

I serve on our safety and security committee

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

We have the opportunity to set our students up better than ever before with the endowed scholarship fund that has been set up as well as an endowment for teachers to receive fundings for things needed in the classroom.

Our technology department has made leaps and bounds in improvements to tech available to the students to aid in learning as well as big jumps to improve the safety of our buildings for our kids and staff.

Our staff has already made gains but catching up from shutting down is a real thing that we all need to be mindful of



WATER VALLEY ISD SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE QUESTIONS



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

I believe the district has done a fantastic job of leveraging the money available to us to get the most bang for our buck and do the most for our students and staff. This has been in the form of endowments for teacher supplies and scholarships available to students that have graduated from wvisd and, BIG improvements to our buildings and grounds

The district has been getting better at getting more of the broad information out to the public using social media and our school website

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

Student success! Success is measured in many ways, but we need to set them up for a successful future.

Staff retention. We need people that can be here for our kids, we have an amazing group of teachers and administrators that are at the front of our kid's success we need to be able to make it possible for them to do the great work they do.

6. Describe the role of the superintendent?

Our superintendent is our districts main manager working hand in hand with our administrators keeping our budget in line with our wishes and overall goals, making sure we stay in compliance with all of our regulatory responsibilities, working with our principals to meet curriculum and safety/disciplinary goals/guidance and, vetting and interviewing our teachers and staff members as well as bring all of this information to the board for recommendation for any necessary board action.



WATER VALLEY ISD5CHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE QUESTIONS



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?**

My first recommendation would be to take the concern to the person who is most directly involved with the situation at hand like maint. Personnel or a child's teacher. Then if the issue is not resolved to escalate it to the next level principal, then superintendent at which point if there is still any issue it can be brought to the board at a stated meeting or the grievance channels could be used.

Obviously if there is a situation that endangers any student or staff the first call is emergency services and any of our school personnel to help where needed.

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

We have an excellent legal adviser for any legal questions, our superintendent is a wealth of financial and regulatory knowledge, we have seasoned board members to look up to and for things that need more influence and thought we have a community that has never failed to provide additional viewpoints and valuable insight into situations that need special attention. We are our community!

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

Communicate benefits and downfalls of what is being done. People need to be informed in order to understand how something will affect them and, work to stop the spread of misinformation. So, opportunities to develop our district are not lost.



WATERVALLEY ISD5CHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE QUESTIONS



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?**

To adopt and adapt policy and budget, review district performance, evaluate and set guidance for the superintendent.

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?**

For students I believe opportunity is necessary for success, we have to grow our own opportunities by constantly developing our staff and our assets. To do that we must leverage all of the advantages we have in the most efficient way possible. I believe the team we have has done an excellent job doing that. The board has changed over the past years since I started coming to meetings just to get a clue and see what was going on. After being appointed to fill a vacancy and then being elected I have been honored to be part of some amazing advancements and would like to see the unfinished projects through and continue to offer my insight to the future of the district