



WATER VALLEY ISD SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE QUESTIONS



Candidate Name: Wade Banister

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

To serve the community that has done so much for me and my children. I also strive to be supportive of every student, no matter what activity or organization they choose to be involved in. Every student and staff member needs a voice.

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

I worked at the school district in 2009 as the Maintenance Director. I have also had my two kids graduate from Water Valley ISD. One being the most recent as last year. My kids have always been my biggest priority and while they were in school, I attended many sporting events for them both. I never missed my kids' games. I have also been cooking for the booster club for the last few years as well as running the scoreboard for all home football games. I also assist with running the scoreboard for the pee wee football games, whether the games are at Water Valley or another location. I am also an active member of the Water Valley Athletic Booster Club. I am proud to be able to serve Water Valley ISD as well as the Water Valley Community. I am always searching for more ways to better our school and community.

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

There are many great opportunities as more funding becomes available through the wind and solar farms that are coming into our area. We have already seen many great things happening around the school such as the new buildings, new scholarship foundations, safety and security upgrades, and technology updates. Even through all of COVID, our staff has been fantastic in keeping up with the times and diligently working hard by providing everything they can to our students in order for them to succeed. As we continue to move into the future, our staff, teachers, and students are the main concerns. I do see challenges in retention and making sure we have the budgets necessary to continue to provide for everyone.

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 last four years have been quite a crazy time with COVID, the success of sports and academics, and new constructions. The school district has done well with all of the safety and security for our staff and students and still continues to do so. Safety has always been one of my #1 priorities for our school district, staff, and students.

The district has also been making strides to provide more information via the website, remind, and Facebook of all activities and accomplishments.

One big issue that I could see us potentially facing is Staff Retention. I know many people have discussed this but it is a very true statement. We have a fantastic group of staff and kids but in order for their success to happen, we need to be able to retain them and as our school grows, we need to be able to add the necessary staff to fulfill our students needs.

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

My goals are:

- To keep our students and staff as the main priorities for our school district.
- To keep our students and staff as safe and secure as possible.
- To serve Water Valley ISD and the community of Water Valley with the upmost service and respect that I can offer.

I plan to continually bring forth ideas and issues that are known to the school board meetings for discussion and possible determination depending on the subject matter at hand. I believe everyone should be given the chance to implement ideas to better further our community and school district.



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6. Describe the role of the superintendent?

The role of the superintendent is to work along side the school board to develop goals, policies, and budgets to achieve the school districts success. He or she is also to ensure that students as well as staff are being recognized for their achievements and hard work. The superintendent should also take notice if some part of the district is lacking and try to find ideas and consult with the board to boost whatever is struggling. The superintendent should also show signs of respect, leadership, and integrity to better pursue the school district and communities' ultimate positive outcomes.

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 would follow the chain of command which could ultimately end up at the superintendent as well as the rest of our trustees to further resolve the issue. As far as day-to-day operations go, those issues would arise to the superintendent and staff.

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

Depending if it is public knowledge, I would reach out to current trustees, past trustees, school administration and/or the public.

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

I plan on bringing constant communication with our school district and community as well as the ultimate service I can provide along side my fellow trustees. I plan on building even stronger relationships with staff, students, and our community.

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?

The primary role of the school board trustees member is to provide input on issues at hand as far as tax rates, budgets, and the overall well-being of the community and school district. The school board as a whole is to adopt goals and policies to provide success to the school district, to hire and evaluate the superintendent, adopt budgets and approve tax rates, and to provide accurate and constant communication within the community.

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?

Having transparency between the community and the school board a key factor in the school's success which I believe I can bring to this district. I have no personal or hidden agendas by being elected to the board. Only the importance of our students, staff, and district safety and well-being. My #1 priority of our students is to achieve the highest goals in whichever path they may choose in their future lives. I would be very honored and proud to serve in such a great community and school district.