

# Jefferson County Republican Club School Board Questionnaire

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**What School District are you running for Board Member?** Fox C-6

**How long have you lived in the school district?** 37 years (minus a two-year stint in South County)

**Do you have or have had children attend a school in the District?** Yes

**What is your opinion on the mask mandate and why?** I disagree with them being mandated and believe they do more harm than good. Every day that a forced mandate goes on adds to the mental distress our community is suffering as well as the potential health risk associated with wearing a mask for hours on end.

**If you oppose the mask mandate, what is your plan?** I would try to convince the other board members to agree with my stance and put forth a policy that does not make them mandatory. When voting on policy, I would not vote in favor one that makes them mandatory.

**What is your opinion on the mandatory mask requirement and why?** I disagree with them being required and believe they do more harm than good. Every day that a mask is required adds to the mental distress our community is suffering as well as the potential health risk associated with wearing a mask for hours on end.

**If you oppose mandatory mask requirement, what is your plan?** I would try to convince the other board members to agree with my stance and put forth a policy that does not make them a requirement. When voting on policy, I would not vote in favor one that makes them requirement.

**What is your opinion on mandatory school shutdown and quarantine of children and why?** I believe as was true in the past before Covid 19 that if an outbreak runs rampant through an individual school such as the flu, it may be necessary to shut the school down for a couple of days to completely disinfect the property, as well to allow time for students and staff to recover. These situations have happened when an abundant number of students/staff are already absent from school due to actual sickness that continues to spread. This does not apply to the recent mentality of forced absence pushed by quarantine guidelines. Rather, it is a throwback to how we used to handle things. If you are sick, do not come to school and if enough people are sick in a building, it may be necessary to hit pause for a couple of days.

**If you oppose mandatory school shutdown and quarantine of children, what is your plan?** As noted before, I am not necessarily opposed to a shut down for a few days in rare situations when illness is running rampant. This has been done before with cases of the flu for a short period of time. If you are sick, stay home and I think the old standard was 24 or 48 hours fever free before returning. That still makes sense. With the

current situation we are facing, I do not agree with forcing students and staff to quarantine at home for however many days. It should be up to the parents to have common sense enough to know when their children are sick and how long to keep them home with respect to the prior standard.

**What is your view on CRT and why?** I think it's divisive and quite disturbing to see how much it is pushed by the NEA. They hide it under the shroud of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Those terms sound friendly on the surface but what is being ushered into our schools under their guise is social engineering and activist ideological training. Quite frankly, all of this astonishes me. I understand what's going on, but it's crazy to see how many people have bought into it. It seems we have taken 30 steps backwards in our social progression of race relations and being a more unified nation. I'm a child of the 80's and 90's, and it doesn't add up that we are supposedly more racist now when things seemed to be moving in a pretty good direction back then. The people pushing this have Marxist aims while enjoying the benefits of Capitalism by selling the ideology to educators spending taxpayer money. Telling someone they should feel guilty about their skin color or telling a someone they will be oppressed because of theirs is sowing racism and division.

**If you oppose CRT, what is your plan to keep it out of the schools?** I would review the curriculum as much as I can personally for examples of this and work to have them removed from the school classrooms/libraries. Sometimes this information can come from whistle blowers, I will take those reports serious and ensure that they are addressed. Furthermore, I would propose and like to get written into policy that the concepts of it and its teachings are banned from our district.

**What is your opinion on students who have fallen behind and how would you address this problem?** I think it's terrible what has happened to some of the children's education due to the lockdowns and inconsistency of educational methods. There is no easy answer to the problem because there are so many dependent factors. First, they need to be in school. Second, they need to be able to keep the masks off. They are a distraction, unhealthy, and make it hard for the children to keep focus. Third, we need to make sure their teachers are focused on education and not social agendas. Lastly, and probably most important, everyone involved is going to have to step up to the plate and be accountable: the teachers, the parents, and of course, the students. The silver lining of this moment is that it gave parents the opportunity to see more of what was being taught and shook a lot of us to the reality that we clearly have not been paying enough attention to what was happening in our schools.

**What is your opinion on how the District is spending the money it receives and why?** I think we're headed for a downward spiral. There was the projected financial report presented at the last meeting and the outlook is not good for Fox C-6. I would urge people to go back in watch it or read the article in the leader about it that will be out soon if not already. Something will have to give in a matter of years There are cuts to be made I think in the areas of technology, professional development seminars, subcontracted hiring services, and software investments to list a few.

**What do you think makes you qualified for this position?** I am a parent with school aged children, one of which is still currently in the district, which makes me directly aware of the challenges we face raising our children during these turbulent times.

I stand for conservative values, parental choice, and can see straight through the cloud of propaganda being thrust upon us from every direction.

I have a genuine love for the district not based on relationships with any special interest, rather based on my own experiences from attending there for the entirety of my K-12 education. I would be another one of those individuals that return to the district to contribute

**What if any vision or direction do you see that needs to be made in the School District?** I think the field of public education has been able to coast for too long without enough people paying attention to the details. We have allowed it to be hijacked by special interest groups, political narratives, and entities looking to capitalize on taxpayer money by marketing themselves to districts with the “latest and greatest” advancements in education. It’s ironic how all these developments seem to be doing little to nothing as far as the level of learning being achieved by the students, and sometimes even making it worse. Yet nobody takes and step back and considers that maybe what they bought into was a bad idea. I would like to have a thorough look at the curriculum across the board as well as supplemental materials issued by some of the staff. We need to question everything right now. Who paid for it, who is promoting it, who stands to benefit, how is it helping, how may it be hurting? Education should be about building a strong core of skills that will allow our students to expand upon that knowledge as they get older. I have seen situations where educators are putting the cart before the horse in my opinion. For example, one of the tactics now is teaching Kindergarteners and 1<sup>st</sup> graders on how to do narrative writing complete with paragraphs, topic sentences, and supporting details to form an argument. That sounds impressive on the surface, but it is a bit of a reach without first perfecting basic skills such as legible handwriting, spelling, and sentence structure. It’s kind of like asking a child to solve an algebraic equation without first making sure they understand addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. If the foundation is weak, so too will be the structure built upon it.

**Are there any closing remarks you would like to make?**

I would be a representative of the community with a passion for our school district. The public school system (as a whole) needs a serious wake up call, and I am not beholden to that hierarchy. This is an elected position rightfully chosen by the people of the community, not by the school staff (assuming the community will get out and VOTE). Those are the individuals who can hold us to account by virtue of elections. As Fox alumni, I do acknowledge a love of that district and the individuals within it. I would not be running for this position if that passion didn’t exist.

**Thank you!**