

## Hamilton Southeastern School Board Candidate Questions

<b>Submission Date</b>	2018-10-03 22:57:06
<b>Name</b>	Benjamin Elsbury
<b>Address</b>	14461 Refreshing Garden Ln Fishers Indiana 46038 United States
<b>Educational Background</b>	<p>My educational experience includes attending classes at IUPUI, however my greatest asset is my 12 plus years of financial experience in working for a bank. I am currently in charge of the largest bank branch in Indiana for my company. I effectively manage people to achieve a common goal, implement successful projects , and become a positive public relations person for the company. I have numerous financial licenses , endorsements , and certifications. I have received this by taking classes , exams and attending seminars. I am currently a 5 plus year member of my Home Owner Association as well.</p>
<b>Years as a Fishers Resident?</b>	16
<b>Community Involvement Activities (Volunteer)</b>	<p>Fishers SPORTS program coaching girls volleyball. SCI dads club. Guest Speaker for classes at HSE. Jr. Achievement. Job Spark. Drumstick Dash, VITA - free tax prep. Various donations to HSE club and PTO groups. Sponsor of various HSE clubs. First United Methodist Church Co chair for Live Nativity, and Finance committee Chair. Donation to Fishers High School track team. Volunteer time to assist family in the community to help with budgeting and cash flow improvement. Helping others with financial education and advice to make for a happier home life.</p>
<b>Community Involvement Activities (Paid)</b>	None
<b>Leadership Experience</b>	<p>I currently manage a team of 7 people and work with a an additional partnership team of 6 through my banking experience and my passion for education. I am looked up to by my staff , peers and upper management for guidance to improve the bank and the customer experience. The bank has helped me be successful with building relationships, problem solving skills , critical thinking skills, and common sense. I have also led numerous church fundraisers and outreach projects.</p>
<b>Professional Designations</b>	Vice President Registered Investment Representative with Series 6, 63, Life , and Health Insurance licenses.
<b>1. What is your number one reason for wanting to serve on the school board?</b>	<p>My number one reason to serve on the school board is to serve the community and be an impartial voice for the people I serve. I like to be able to bring a balance between wanting to have the best schools at all cost and be able to be fiscally responsible for all Fishers residents at the same time. Being an empty nester I have time to put forth the full effort to be successful.</p>
<b>2. What role does policy play/have in the function of the board?</b>	<p>I think you need to create policy and processes so everyone has an equal playing field. I think consistency is best to be fair for all. I do understand that circumstances change and policy would be to change as well. The board should be a good steward to the school and community by providing a checks and balances system.</p>

**3. What legislative action at the state level would you support to improve education in our community.**

I would work to build a stronger relationship with the teachers association and administration to partner together and put pressure on the state legislators to help improve the funding levels we currently have.

**4. What do you think is the biggest issue facing your district?**

HSE is perceived as a college prep school system. I would like to help support the students who are not going to college to provide career preparation with our own trades program and career bound classes. This will provide invaluable improvement to the community. Most students that graduate high school have zero plans as to what to do after high school, and the school does not help provide direction. I would like to change this.

**5. If you were elected what one thing would you like to accomplish during your term?**

I would like to improve teacher and administration relationship. By working together we can be fiscally responsible and improve the teacher quality of life which in turn will help retain top talent and make the education for the students better.

**6. Do you or have you had children in the Hamilton Southeastern school system?**

YES

**Preferred Contact Information (How do you want voters to contact you?)**

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