

Hamilton Southeastern School Board Candidate Questions

Submission Date	2018-10-02 21:20:10
Name	Josh Richardson
Address	13951 Wakefield Pl Fishers Indiana 46038 United States
Educational Background	I have a B.G.S. from Ball State University with minors in Economics, Telecommunications, and Business Foundations. I have a J.D. from the McKinney School of Law, and I am licensed to practice law in Indiana.
Years as a Fishers Resident?	9 years.
Community Involvement Activities (Volunteer)	I have been active coaching my children's sports. I have coached through the Indy Primere soccer league, and Football, Basketball, Baseball, and Soccer through HSE S.P.O.R.T.S.
Leadership Experience	I attended Ball State University on an Emens' Scholarship, a full-tuition scholarship based on leadership. I worked in the office of Governor Mitch Daniels, and have had many roles of leadership in state government. I managed approximately 800 employees as the Chief Operating Officer of the Department of Workforce Development, and I currently serve as the agency's Chief of Staff.
1. What is your number one reason for wanting to serve on the school board?	Very simply, I am running because I believe the experiences and skills I have will be helpful in this important role.
2. What role does policy play/have in the function of the board?	It is significant. Ultimately, I believe the board plays an important function in helping ensure the community's voice is heard in matters of school operations. A community that feels it's school corporation is unconnected to the wishes of the community will be less supportive of its schools. However, the board also has a role in taking evidence in educational research, often supplied by school staff, into consideration when setting policy.
3. What legislative action at the state level would you support to improve education in our community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. I would work to ensure that education funding is adequate and equitable.2. While recognizing that the state has an important role in curriculum and assessment, I would support legislation that allows for more local control and less state regulation.3. I would support state legislation to allow tax credits for donations to school foundations.4. I would support efforts to attract and retain educators.5. I would seek greater support for mental health initiatives, an area where HSE has been a leader

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

For the first time in many years the district may have some relief from the acute problem of rapid population growth.

I hope this change allows us to put an even greater focus on preparing students for the kinds of jobs and careers that will exist in a rapidly changing world. As jobs are replaced by automation and work shifted due to globalization, we need to better prepare our students to be problem solvers, critical thinkers, and effective communicators. It is not enough to treat the K-12 system as a college-prep function, and rely on the higher education system to teach these skills. Instead, we need to work to integrate this learning into daily curriculum at all levels. We need more exposure of children to "real world" problems. Along with the work it takes to adapt our schools to this shift to teaching deeper learning, we also need to educate the community on its importance to build the community and parental support to allow it to flourish.

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

I would like to work to strengthen the relationships between local business and our schools. Our schools, students, and educators need a better understanding of the kinds of skills employers value. Students need a better understanding of their options, and exposure to different work environments. Businesses need to see the schools as a pipeline of future talent.

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?)

They can email me: josh@joshrichardson.me or on my facebook page [facebook.com/HSEJRichardson](https://www.facebook.com/HSEJRichardson)