

Carmel Clay School Board Candidate Questions

Submission Date	2018-09-25 12:48:15
Name	Pamela Knowles
Address	1519 Cool Creek Dr Carmel Indiana 46033 United States
Educational Background	Elementary School: Anchorage School, Anchorage, Kentucky High School: Eastern High School, Middletown, Kentucky College: Purdue University Masters Degree: IUPUI, Indiana University
Years as a Carmel Resident?	44 years
Community Involvement Activities (Volunteer)	Choir: St. Lukes UMC, Chancel Choir Council member and past president ISBA: Legislative Committee, Nominating Committee, Fall Conference Carmel Clay Schools: School Board
Community Involvement Activities (Paid)	Carmel Clay Schools: School Board
Leadership Experience	Past vice president and president of the chancel choir at St. Luke's UMC Vice president of the Carmel Clay School Board Member of the ISBA legislative committee Member of the policy committee for the School Board Coordinator for the School Board and Superintendent evaluations Past president, vice president, negotiator, and building representative for the teacher's association
Professional Designations	Bachelor's degree and Master's Degree in Elementary Education Certified Mediator
1. What is your number one reason for wanting to serve on the school board?	As a member of the Carmel Clay School Board, I want to continue Carmel's tradition of being an excellent school system to educate children.
2. What role does policy play/have in the function of the board?	Setting policy is an important part of the governance responsibility of the board. Policies are the rules under which the school system functions. Policies are often dictated by Indiana code. Many policies contain administrative guidelines which are more specific in nature and are written by the administration.

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

I would have to say that there are many issues I feel need to be addressed at the state level. These are the issues I would support in order to improve education in our community and across the state

- Funding to help with school safety
- Programs and funding to assist schools in addressing mental health,
- Increase the funding from the state for schools to keep pace with or stay ahead of inflation
- Increase teacher salaries
- Funding and programs for English language learners
- Increase the availability of preschool programs for students in poverty areas
- Stop giving public school dollars to voucher programs
- Funding and programs for career education
- Investigate student assessments that do not penalize students or schools because of a one time test
- School Accountability A-F grading
- School calendars and Instructional time beyond the state guidelines left to local control
- Allow tax credits for contributions to public schools, not just private

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

I feel the biggest issue facing our district is equity in education where students have an equitable opportunity to learn and develop. No one should be denied the right to educational opportunities because of their disability, race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status.

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

I would like to ensure that our district is able to maintain local control.

6. Do you or have you had children in the Carmel Clay school system?

YES

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

Through email at pknowles1217@gmail.com.