

Great Falls Education Association
School Board Candidate Questionnaire

Name Don Ryan Date 4/18/17
Address [REDACTED] City [REDACTED] Zip [REDACTED]
Telephone Number [REDACTED] Email [REDACTED]

1. Please describe your personal experience and involvement with the Great Falls Public Schools or any other public school system in the past five years that lead you to believe that you will be a successful school board member.

In the last 3 years, I have served on the GF School Board. My youngest daughter will finish this year at M.F. High and continue next year at Paris Vocational Educ. Program.

Previously I served 5 years on the GF School Board, before serving in the Senate on the Education Committee for 8 years.

2. What is your view of public education's purpose? Charters? Vouchers?

Montana's Constitution requires the state provide a quality Education system. The public schools are available to all students, we should not be siphoning off resources to any private system that can discriminate or refuse to hold accountable academically or financially.

3. What is your understanding of the local school board's role in the educational process?

We are the elected volunteers of the voting public. Our service to the public is to inform, ~~and~~ track, and ~~over~~ oversee the progress the district makes each year to improve the education our children receive.

4. What will be your top three (3) objectives, if elected to the school board?

1) Insure the money from the 98 million dollar bond is spent in a productive & prudent manner. Poor management will kill future levies & bonds.

2) Make sure employees and citizens can express their concerns without fear of reprisals.

3) Do ever thing possible to enable the district to attract &

5. Do you have any specific changes you want to make in school district policies, programs, or the various curricula being offered? If so, what changes do you want to make and why?

Keep quality employees!

I want to ensure that everyday a student is required to come to school, they have the best educational value or service possible.

6. Have you ever had the opportunity to belong to a union?

Did you join the union?

Why or why not?

yes

yes

MEA-AFT when I was teaching

Teamsters in the 1990's

Since 1995 I have been self-employed

7. If offered, would you accept our endorsement?

yes