



Kyle McLaren

490 Board of Education Candidates Questionnaire

1. Why did you decide to run for USD 490 Board of Education?

There are a number of reasons, but the short answer to this question is pretty simple. I want to do my part in the community to make it a better place. If elected, I would do my best to do what is right for the students, staff and taxpayers.

2. Do you feel you are qualified for this position and if so, why?

I do. I have been a member of the City of El Dorado Planning Commission and the Butler Community College Welding Department Advisory Board, both for 4 years now and have missed very few meetings. As a part of those groups I have provided unbiased input to the topics at hand. Before becoming a member of the BCC advisory board, I made a presentation to the BCC Board of Trustees, which was instrumental in saving the Welding Department. In addition to these volunteer activities, I have volunteered to coach baseball for the City of El Dorado Recreation Department for 2 years and I have also been active in the Grandview Elementary PTO. If you are looking for formal qualifications, I have a Bachelor's Degree in Construction Engineering Technology and a Master's Degree in Career and Technical Education, both from Pittsburg State University.

3. If elected, what would be your top priority or focus?

Again, the short answer to this question is pretty simple. The kids would be my top priority. To elaborate, I want USD 490 to provide the best opportunities for all students to be successful and achieve their goals in life.

4. Is there anything else you would like to add as you are considered for this position?

As an El Dorado native and EHS graduate, I believe I have a pretty unique background and value both hard work and formal education. As a 20 year old kid, I worked as a welder and put myself thru college. Even though I eventually obtained a Master's Degree and have a really good office job working for Sedgwick County, I choose to also own and operate my own business, Mac's Tree Service, which requires some pretty intense labor. In short, I'm not afraid to put my nose in a book or to get my hands dirty to get the job done.