



Vicki M. Coash

490 Board of Education Candidates Questionnaire

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

I am currently running for my fourth term on the USD 490 School Board. When I ran for my first term on the Board, was when we were getting ready to talk about remodeling El Dorado High School. I had children in the district and had personally seen the need for updates and remodeling in all of our schools. I decided that I had the time and that I might as well get involved and help prepare our schools for the future generations—if not me, who? To be honest that first term was a learning experience. First, learning the powers the Board had and the different places our money came from and where it could be used. After that term, I felt like I might know a little about what I was doing and decided to run for another term on the Board. The next term we were working on Skelly Grade School and the Middle School and I wanted to see those projects through. I was happy that the El Dorado people think kids are important enough to have updated schools, so I decided to file for this fourth term to see Blackmore and Grandview grade schools and the Performing Arts Center through to the end. My time on the Board has been a very rewarding experience and my hope is that I have made a positive difference for USD 490.

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

I feel qualified to be re-elected to the Board because of experience I have gained through my three terms on the Board. It is a learning experience and it takes time to understand the duties of a board member and the ins and outs of the School District. There are two basic jobs that the school board has and those are to hire and fire the Superintendent and to make and approve policy for the District. Probably the thing that has taken the longer amount of time to understand is the funding part of the District. Where the money comes from and where and for what it can be used. Fortunately, we are lucky to have a Superintendent and Associate Superintendent who have enormous knowledge to lead us in that area.

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

Always first and foremost on my list of priorities is academic success of every student in USD 490. We have made great strides in this area the past ten years and my hope is that we continue on that path for the long term. Also a priority is getting and keeping the best teachers we can possibly hire and provide the best facilities for teachers to teach and students to learn in. Both teachers and students need to have pride in their surrounds to do the best job possible. My goal is to for El Dorado Schools to be the school of preference in area.

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

I would appreciate the support of every resident in USD 490 for whoever is elected to the School Board as we continue and finish our facility updates; work toward a 100% graduation rate; strive to bring the best of the best teachers to El Dorado and pay them accordingly; work to make our students all around learners, achievers and athletes; and make every person in El Dorado "Proud to be a Wildcat!"

Thank you to the El Dorado Chamber of Commerce for providing this forum to introduce ourselves and please get out and vote on November 7th.

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