



# SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

## RON FRANKLIN

*Candidate for EMS ISD, Place 1*

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**Please provide any personal background information you would like to share with the employees of the district.**

I retired from my position as the Director of Choirs for Boswell High School after 30 years in the district. I began my career at Weatherford High School and was fortunate enough after my first year of teaching to be selected as Choir Director for Boswell in 1990. Weldon Hafley was the principal who hired me, Bill Anderson was the superintendent and we were a district with one high school, one middle school and a handful of elementary schools. Being a part of the tremendous growth in this area has been one of the most exciting parts of my career.

My wife Stephanie and I have been happily married for 26 years and have four daughters as well as 3 nieces and 3 nephews who have attended or are attending schools in EMS ISD. We attend Eagles View Church and have lived in his area most of our lives. I love everything about the EM-S community and have a huge heart for our awesome town!

**What qualifications do you have that would make you an effective trustee?**

I believe my time serving as an educator in the same district is unique. This experience allows me to have great loyalty and insight to the students, teachers, and people of our community. I am passionate about education and serving kids and families with unwavering excellence.

**How have you been involved in the district in recent years? (e.g., attended district meetings, served on committees, volunteered)**

Much of my service to the district has included volunteer leadership opportunities well beyond my assigned responsibilities as Choir Director. I was the Senior Class sponsor for more than 15 years, a member of the National Honor Society faculty counsel, a member of the District Planning and Advisory Committee as well as on the committee which wrote our district's mission statement when it was penned a number of years ago. I was the original sponsor of Boswell's spirit organization, Blue Crew and a sponsor in various other student led projects over the years.

**What three issues do you think are the most important issues facing the district? Please explain.**

My passion as a teacher is to ensure that we remain student focused. Any issues that create a challenge for student success are not only important but critical.

**How important is it for the district to provide competitive salaries and benefits for all employees including veteran teachers?**

Without competitive salaries, we will lose strong teachers to other districts. Teacher retention is not only about an appreciative culture offering a positive work environment, it's also about good compensation.

**How will you use input gained from district employees, community members, parents, and students to inform decisions made by the school board?**

The above groups ARE the district. People must be heard, and their experiences valued. One of my best personal traits includes being an active listener so that those I am in contact with feel heard and understood. As a board member, I would continue my relational approach to communication and problem solving.

**Please discuss any other issue you feel is relevant to your election to the Board of Trustees**

The first question I get from family and friends when they find out I am running for school board is, "Why are you running?" They assume I believe something is broken or I have an agenda. Nothing is further from the truth. This is an amazing district with a great board. It would be a privilege to continue to serve in EMS ISD as a trustee. While I have retired from teaching, my heart for the students and staff remains unchanged. Serving on the Board of Trustees would be an incredible honor.