



# SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

## Trent Hill

*Candidate for Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD, Place 6*

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

I have lived in the district my entire life. Attended EMS ISD schools from K-12. Family has been in the district since the 1960's. Several family members have graduated from EMS ISD. I currently have a child in EMS ISD as well as two nephews and my wife is a special education teacher for a high school in a neighboring district. My current full-time job is a police officer/paramedic, with having 20 years total in public safety.

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

I have a BS in Criminal Justice from Texas A&M Commerce with emphasis in leadership. I possess strong leadership skills; I am not afraid to stand up for what is right, and I can work effectively as a team to accomplish our goals. With my background in public safety, I will work with the new ISD Police Dept. to provide them support and help relay information to the board on the necessity of increased police presence.

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

I have attended almost every board meeting for the past year to stay current on district news. I currently serve on the district's facilities planning committee. I have participated in many fundraisers and volunteering operations within the district and I also have served as a Pct. Chairman since 2014.

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

Three issues facing the district would include; School Safety, the district is growing and the amount of violence that is occurring on campuses is troubling. We must find solutions to address and deter the student violence and bullying. Second would be Special Education/Teacher Salaries, I feel our special education programs could work to become better and provide those teachers with stipends that are available to them that are not yet receiving and addressing all teacher salaries. Third would be to lower the burden on local taxpayers. Property taxes keep increasing and we must do our part to help soften the effect of rising taxes.

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

It is very important to pay and retain our teachers. I had some great teachers in the district, and it breaks my heart to see good teachers leaving the district. The district's salary step plan is not aggressive enough in my opinion. If we want to continue being a great district, we must be competitive with our salaries. Having the relationships, I have with local state leaders, I will work with them to help increase the state's allotment to the district to help fund these issues and keep the burden off the taxpayer.

**If you get elected as a school board member, how will you support teachers in regard to student behaviors, classroom management, and campus safety?**

Teachers need the ability to maintain order and control in their classrooms without the fear of administration backlash. We must do more to ensure that disruptive kids are not interfering with the flow of the classroom and not disrupting other children's education. As a board member, we must look at classroom capacity and ensure we are not overloading our teachers. Obviously, campus safety is a top priority for me, as I will work to have an officer at every campus and ensure that every incident/threat is investigated and handled properly and swiftly.



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**Please discuss any other issue you feel is relevant to your campaign for the EMS ISD School Board.** As I said before, I am not afraid to stand up for what is right for our children and the district. I will advocate for our children's safety and academic excellence. I will advocate for our teachers and give them a voice within the district. Being a public service profession, I know the difficulties and sacrifices teachers face every day. This will always be on my mind as decisions are made. Public education is at the core of our foundation of society. I will never defund safety or education. I am well invested in the past and future growth of the district and want this district to continue being a great district.