



School Board Candidate Information Sheet

Candidate Name: Jonathan Cottrell

Board Position Sought: CCISD Board of Trustees At Large Position A

1. Please share some background about you and your interest in serving on the Clear Creek Independent School District Board of Trustees.

As a current stakeholder and father of three in the district, I feel it is time to take the next step for all children in the district now and in the future. The people I have collaborated with for community growth and educational advocacy inspire me to do more.

As the son of a former Marine and CCISD teacher I learned the values of honesty, integrity, respect, and hard work. My extensive volunteerism in the district and the community have demonstrated leadership and decision-making skills doing what is best for our children, educators, and our residents.

I am a product of CCISD, Clear Lake Falcon Class of '94, and a small local business owner. I am fully aware of how education touches all our lives through industry and at home. Serving the community I live and work in has always been important to me. I am a UHCL graduate and have lived in the District for the past 35 years.

2. List your participation in CCISD schools and/or district parent clubs, community and civic involvement, etc.

Clear Creek Education Foundation: Board member and Chairman of the Board. Served 6 years. Current Senior Advisory Council member

CCISD: Current member of the Community Finance Advisory Committee.

Advocacy: Past five legislative sessions have visited Austin to advocate for educational priorities of CCISD.

Gilmore Elementary PTA: President for two terms. Current 1st VP of Programs

PTA WatchDog and LAUNCH attendee.

Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce: Board of Directors and Executive Board. Member for 10 years. Current Executive Board Vice-Chair of Administration

Assistance League of the Bay Area Currently serve on the Advisory Board

Bay Area Alliance for Youth and Families Fundraiser, supporter, and participant on Dancing with The Stars - Bay Area

American Heart Association - Bay Area Go Red For Women Donor and supporter

3. Considering your skills and talents, what positive contribution would you make as a member of the Board of Trustees?

As trustee I will continue to be a fully devoted advocate for the children and families of the district. Through my CCISD experience and community involvement I have a broad knowledge base and will utilize my experience to further the District's mission and Core Values. I will work with my fellow Trustees to further the core purpose of educating our students well in order to enrich our society fully. My experience as a small business owner and sponsor of Teacher Innovative Grants throughout the district gives me insight to the abilities of our students in supporting them to reach their fullest potential. Given my deep insight and knowledge of programs and organizations within the district that support the children and teachers I look forward to broadening that support.

4. In your opinion, what role do trustees play in affecting student success?

Trustees must be the voice of the community within the district. A trustee must support their teachers and aide in finding collaborative ways to be innovative in the classroom. Additionally, a trustee must work with the district to provide safe and effective learning environments.

An effective trustee cultivates and tends to each student through fair governance, and appropriate oversight of proper education, while still considering the needs of the student body as a whole. Especially in a district as large and diverse as CCISD, and in an era of an ever changing society, it is as important as ever to make sure each and every one of our students achieves their full potential in whatever path in life they choose.

5. What critical challenges face the district, and what are possible solutions to address those issues?

As I alluded to earlier, we live in an ever changing society. We are hopefully nearing the end of an unprecedented pandemic which tested our students, parents, teachers, staff, and faculty like nothing we have seen in our lifetime. In addition to this our students face issues like no generation before them, from the threat of gun violence, to our ever evolving understandings of race, religion, and gender. At the same time our district is going through an equally unprecedented period of growth and prosperity, with the conclusion of the newly renovated and constructed Clear Lake High School, and the other major projects and needs of our many schools in the district, we also require unprecedented leadership, and leaders which will not just listen to their constituents and stakeholders, but also collaborate with each and EVERY student in our district.

6. Please provide campaign website and/or contact information.

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