



School Board Candidate Information Sheet

Candidate Name: Marlene Montesinos, J.D., PhD.

Board Position Sought: 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 Hispanic who came to the U.S. as a child, without much but the American dream, the single motivator for success was Education. My parents instilled in me the desire to learn in order to forge ahead. Overcoming strong adversities, I was able to achieve a Juris Doctorate and a Ph.D., plus several other certifications, which opened the door to various possibilities. I want to be part of the governing body that promotes that love of learning and education in our students – in whatever field suits them best, so long as they make the most of it. In these times of great difficulty, I believe that my experiences will be of great contribution. I have the knowledge, time and experience, and it is my goal to give back to the community and be part of the solution.

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

I have lived in the area for over 33 years. When my children were small, I was very involved in their various school activities, I live a block from Ward elementary. Now I am quite involved in civic activities, leading a Non-profit organization that seeks to assist those in need. People bring their problems to us for assistance, including problems they are having in the school system and we have been able to help them from afar. Now we hope to make a more direct impact as a Board Member.

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

Foremost is the desire to get each student to reach his/her highest potential. My ingrained belief in education as a way to success, resulting in my high level of education attained - in spite of the adversities encountered as a child in the school – without a support system, gives me a better understanding and allows me to identify with those children and families in need. I know not only the language but also the culture.

Complimentary to that is the experience in administration, based on over 10 years of leading a business and a Non-Profit organization, which allows me to be an active, contributory and cohesive part in the administrative part of the Board.

Finally, as a Mediator/Conflict Resolution Specialist, my view is to approach each problem and seek solutions, thus no problem is too small or too big.

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

I believe that the Trustees ultimate goal is to seek the outcome of successful future leaders. To do this, Trustees must work together to know and act on the needs, of not only students, but also staff, teachers, parents and community. Trustees do this as the governing body of School District.

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

It is no mystery that the greatest, most immediate critical issue is the safety of our students, both in the health aspect with the Corona Virus and its mutations; and its ancillary complications such as the challenges of online learning, cost for material, teacher, parent and student training, and others.

Also there is a time long issue of physical and emotional health such as the issue of bullying (now even occurring online), and prevention of dangerous outbursts. As well as the need to be responsive to a growing trend of Hispanics (32.3% and other minorities (15+%)). We must not forget the drug problem in our adolescents, nor the need to be competitive in our teaching, the high risk of drop-out rate and the need to instill core values that go beyond just subjects.

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

I am happy to answer phone calls at 973-444-1773 and by email at MontesinosBdofTrustees@gmail.com.