



School Board Candidate Information Sheet

Candidate Name: Christine Parizo

Board Position Sought: District 5

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

I'm a first-generation American, small business owner, and mother of two children who attend Clear Creek ISD schools. My family moved to League City in 2015, in part because of CCISD's reputation as one of the best school districts in the Houston area. From our research, we were impressed by the opportunities for our children to receive a high-quality education, as well as explore their talents and interests. Public education has been a cornerstone of success for my family, including for my immigrant parents.

As an avid public policy follower and passionate advocate for education, I want to ensure that every student in the district is successful. To do that, we need Trustees who will be advocates for the students, families, and taxpayers they represent. I want to listen, to foster transparency, to be a responsible steward of taxpayer funds, and to make sure that every child in the district has the same opportunity for success.

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

Hall Elementary PTA Advocacy Chair
Hall Elementary CCCC of PTAs Delegate
Creekside Intermediate PTA volunteer
Creekside Campus Instructional Improvement Committee (CIIC)
Elementary school robotics competition volunteer
Boeing Toastmasters Club, past VP of Public Relations
Clear Creek Republican Women

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

First and foremost, I'm a communicator. I've spent the majority of my career in communications, with a foray into law, that has honed my passion for communicating clearly, fostering transparency, and ensuring that enacted policies benefit the public. I'm committed to thoughtful, responsible stewardship of taxpayer funds, and to ensuring that every student in the district is treated fairly. I hold a B.S. in Journalism and Public Information, which has strengthened my ability to cut through noise and articulate the facts. With CCISD growing rapidly, District 5 in particular, it's critical to have a strong voice for every taxpayer and student on the Board.

I'm also a small business owner. I understand every organization must make hard budget decisions, whether it's renegotiating an existing contract, searching for a new provider, or choosing whether to spend the rainy-day fund. Like many, I am frustrated that CCISD has engaged in millions of dollars of unnecessary spending in recent years, money that could have been spent where it could make a real difference: in the classroom helping students, as well as CCISD's hard-working educators. I would seek to change that by bringing a critical eye to spending.

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

The most important role a Trustee plays is to listen – to be there for the students and parents in the community, especially when they feel they have nowhere else to turn. The Board is often the last stop for families who have struggled to get their children the services they need, and its decisions can mean the difference between a student succeeding, or slipping through the cracks. I've been that parent standing before the Board, pleading for help, and I know what it feels like when it seems like nobody cares. I'm running because that needs to change. I am in this race to not only listen and understand the needs of the children in the district, but also to take action -- to make sure the district's policies work for children and families, not against them, and ensure success for every student.

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

The biggest challenge facing the district is the ongoing effort to mitigate and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Our students are struggling academically and emotionally from school closures and restrictions. We need to make sure our educators are equipped to make up for learning loss, as well as recognize and respond to mental health issues that have been introduced or exacerbated by the pandemic.

We are also facing a funding challenge. As of right now, we don't know what tax revenues will be as a result of the recession, nor do we know what kind of state and federal funding we'll continue to receive. We need to take a critical eye toward unnecessary expenditures and cost savings so that we can protect student-facing positions.

In addition, the district is challenged by enrollment growth and aging facilities. To address these challenges, CCISD must adopt a proactive, long-term approach to school construction and renovation, including making sure preventative maintenance is budgeted for and completed. Taxpayers are tired of CCISD reaching out to the voters every few years for another giant bond

package. Yet too many CCISD facilities are consistently ignored; they must be kept in top condition to ensure that every student, regardless of campus, can receive a great education. Every child should feel an overwhelming sense of pride when they arrive at school each day.

CCISD also needs to monitor subdivision expansions, in west League City in particular, as these rapidly growing areas may soon require more resources. By planning in advance, we can minimize the kind of overcrowding that has led to portable classrooms and other short-sighted, disruptive decisions that negatively affect students. Better long-term planning is critical to ensure that every child can receive a great education.

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

<https://christinerforccisd.com>
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