



Prosper School Board Candidate – Bill Beavers

What are the district's greatest capital needs right now? How do you think those needs should be addressed?

The greatest capital need of our district currently is buildings and facilities to accommodate our ever growing student population. It is imperative that we meet these needs strategically. We as a district have immediate needs for facilities but this will continue to be an issue for years to come. Every dollar spent now must be done with an eye on the need for future dollars over a long period of time. I believe much thought has already been given by our current board to address these needs. We need to strategically plan to wisely invest taxpayer dollars. Multiple sources of revenue should be considered including grants, donations and bond elections.

Given today's environment, how do you propose we keep our students and staff safe?

Prosper ISD has many effective security measures already in place. For instance, the Prosper ISD police department does an outstanding job in keeping our students safe. We do need to make sure that they have the tools they need to effectively deal with any situation that may arise at any time. As far as specific measures are concerned, I feel that it is in the best interest of our students' safety to not speak openly.

In your past professional experience, what criteria do you use to make decisions about hiring people, retaining goods and services, or the effectiveness of a course of action? How will you use these criteria when making decisions as a school board member?

Professionally, I would describe myself as a goal oriented person who feels that it is important to meet and exceed expectations. There is a standard of excellence to uphold at all times. I consistently ask myself the question, "Are we better today than we were yesterday?" If the answer to that question is not in the affirmative, it is unacceptable to me both professionally and personally. If the answer to that question is "no," action must be taken. This would certainly be true ten times over as it pertains to any decisions affecting the students of Prosper ISD. If a decision made does not move us forward and make us better, it is simply not good enough.

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Do you have any specific changes you want to make in school district policies, programs, or the various school curricula being offered? If so, what changes do you want to make and why?

Prosper ISD is headed in the right direction and is effectively meeting its challenges. If elected, I believe I would be remiss to arrive as a newly elected board member with an agenda or many plans for changing policy, curricula or programs. Time will need to be spent studying, listening and thoughtfully considering. I have great confidence in our current board and district leadership. Any ideas I have for change will be voiced after I have had time to listen and reflect.

What long-range plan would you want to implement for the school district? (May include growth, curriculum, staffing, and/or parental involvement.)

As far as a long-range plan is concerned, I believe the same is true as stated in my answer to the previous question. Specifically, I would like to see us as a community maintain our motto: “We are Prosper. We are one.” Parental involvement is a crucial part of the work it will take to bring Prosper into this new era of extraordinary growth and be all the better for it. We are all on the same team and our goal is the same, to provide our students with the best possible educational experience and set them up for great success in the future.

What is your view of the respective roles of the school committee, the superintendent, school councils, and teachers in the development and selection of classroom curricula, textbooks, etc.?

My view of these respective roles as it pertains to the selection of classroom curricula, textbooks, etc., is that they are each respectively to uphold the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) as set forth by the State Board of Education. As far as enrichment above and beyond these standards are concerned, I believe working collectively and collaboratively would positively impact students and be very beneficial.

What is your opinion of the current school district policies towards students with special needs, (i.e., mainstreaming behavioral problem students, English as a second language, gifted & talented, breakfast programs, students who face the problems of poverty, family problems, etc.)?

As each student is an individual and possesses unique qualities, strengths and challenges, our policies should be sensitive to the individual needs of these students. Since these needs will change due to the individuality of students, our policies will consistently need to be evaluated and updated to ensure that we are meeting these needs to the best of our ability both for the benefit of the individual as well as for the benefit of all students in general. Assessing and reassessing policies is imperative to ensure that we are doing our best to meet the needs of an ever changing student population.

Drugs are prevalent in schools across the country. What can we do to reduce the drugs in Prosper schools?

Effectively dealing with the drug issue starts at home. Equipping parents with resources and information as well as educating them on current trends and statistics will help build a strong foundation to reduce and ideally eliminate drug use in Prosper ISD. The school can then reinforce the principles taught at home on this issue and do their part to eradicate drug use. Partnership between parents and school personnel is key.

How do we stop bullying?

Prosper ISD has a zero tolerance policy on bullying. There is absolutely no place for bullying in Prosper ISD regardless of the form it takes. Forming positive relationships with students that foster trust is an important preventative measure. Providing each student with a safe, secure environment in which to learn and equipping them with the knowledge that they are highly valued and have unique qualities that only they can offer will also help curtail this issue. In the end, maintenance of our zero tolerance policy must be upheld.