

Jefferson County Board of Education
JCEA Questionnaire for Candidates
2020

*Please limit your responses to no more than 50 words per numbered question.

Candidate's Name: Regina Kerrigan

1. Why are you seeking a position on the Board of Education? List your experiences that are relevant to the position.

I am seeking a position on the BOE because I want to see more proactive measures toward protecting our kids' health. This includes physical health and psychological health. We cannot succeed in our education system if our kids aren't given the best possible chance to remain healthy.

2. List and explain briefly the top three goals/issues you feel the BOE should address.

1. Lessen the impact of adverse childhood experiences, including substance abuse in the home, and psychological trauma in general.
 2. Get the needed schools built as soon as possible and make repairs to old where it makes sense.
 3. Address anxieties that students face regarding climate change, pollution, & school violence.
3. The JCEA is comprised of both professional and service personnel. How do you view your role/relationship with the JCEA in improving the educational system of Jefferson County?

First, I recognize that we all share the same goal of providing the best possible education to all Jefferson County students. Professional and service personnel alike live, breathe, and eat for the kids. As a mom of 3, I also desire the best possible resources be available to them throughout their education.

4. How do you plan to foster transparency and support the Board of Education, School Employees, and the community?

Transparency is imperative to earn the public's and Jeffco employees' trust in the leadership. The system as a whole can work better in an environment of openness and cooperation. When leadership adopts an approach of "we're all in this together," it encourages everyone to work toward the common goal - education - and not for one's own protection of ego.

Regina Kerrigan

5. List/explain the top three budgetary goals/issues that should be addressed to plan and execute closing the revenue gaps in future JCS budgets.

1. We must get the school bond on the ballot for the November election. The building of new schools for Shepherdstown and Ranson sites is a top priority for our county. We must educate the public to get a passing vote for the bond.

2. Coordinate with the JCC on merits of raising impact fees. Our fees are below average for the country. 3. Public input of which

6. How do you plan to ensure transparency between the Superintendent/Central Office Staff other and School Employees?

I would research and introduce policies that bridge the gap of online communication that takes place among board members between meetings - which doesn't necessarily make the cut for open records. This digital age needs updated protocol for this reason. I would also support additional surveys and making the results of such surveys an item on every meeting agenda. ^{projects should take precedence}

7. In recent years there has been an increase in students suffering from both emotional and physical trauma. The efforts to meet the needs of these students have overshadowed the needs of the overall school population. Teachers are regularly forced to stop instruction and enact safety protocols which negatively impact a positive learning environment in the classroom. How will you as a board member support a school environment that focuses on the needs of the many as well as the needs of the few?

Many of our kids, not just a few, are dealing with incredibly heavy issues outside of school. I would support seeking out and partnering with organizations in our community that are already working very hard to lessen the impact of these issues. If we could provide assistance to these organizations, they could be more effective at helping our kids. This is the power of working together versus "reinventing the wheel" separately.

8. List and explain your direct experiences/contributions with the Jefferson County School system to date.

First, my primary experience with JCS was a student from K-12. Our county and its school system holds a special place in my heart. I also have 3 children, ages 8, 8, and 3. I therefore deeply hope for prosperity and success for our schools. I believe in the public schools but also see room for improvement and need for a person on the board who looks out for environmental & mental

*Please return by April 13, 2020, in the enclosed addressed, stamped envelope. Thank you. ^{health,}
with optimism and refreshed energy.