



Questions for Candidates for School Board Trustee from the Conservative Coalition of Harris County

This questionnaire will be posted onto the Conservative Coalition of Harris County website for public viewing (www.cchc-pac.org).

Candidate Name	Position that Candidate is Running For
Morgan Calhoun	Position 4 Katy ISD

Candidates please give your answer to each of the following questions and include your rationale with each answer. Please be concise and clear.

1. Why are you running for School Board Trustee? Is there a particular issue that motivates you to serve on the school board? If elected, what will be your priorities?

Answer: I am running first and foremost for my kids, and the kids in the district to be able to have sound and reliable voice that the community can trust. There are many issues that motivated me to run, a concern with parental rights, discipline implementation inside the classrooms, and budgetary transparency.

2. What experience or skills have prepared you to serve as a board member? What differentiates you from the other candidates and/or board members? In what school district or community activities/organizations have you been involved?

Answer: I have been raising three children for the last almost 11 years with their father by my side. I have been an active member in our local community through service in our church as a director in different leadership roles, as well as sitting on a leadership team that over saw the daily running of our church body. I have taken an active role inside each of my children's classrooms, as well as the volunteer mechanism of their school. I am not so far removed from the actual ins and outs of parenting, and culture war that surrounds this job (mom), I am invested right now and actively engaged in this battle we find ourselves in.

3. What are your thoughts on the current and the proposed budget for your school district? What issues do you believe your district needs to address in its academic program and offerings? What changes would you recommend?

Answer: The current budget oversees over a billion dollars annually from student enrollment. I would like to be able to start peeling back the layers for this budget to see where the money is going and funding and making adjustments as needed.

4. Is the current funding allocation within district spending categories (between administration, facilities, teachers, etc.) adequate? Why or Why not? If not, what areas of spending can be changed and how do you propose to correct it? Should any resources be devoted to political lobbying?
- Answer:** Funding allocation is largely given to campuses, insurance, and teacher pay. There is room in which we need to be able to address a lack of transparency, and further push accountability from the board room.
5. What are your areas of concern regarding student achievement in your district? Do you have specific suggestions for improvement? What is your long-term strategy or strategies for improving the quality of education and keeping pace with student growth within the district?
- Answer:** We have seen sharp decline in developmental progress since the pandemic, whether that is due to lack of face to face time, increase in social media and technology use or a combination of both, we have to as a board and team driven to student success, address and tackle the decline with support and structure from teachers, engaged parents, and accessible board of trustees. We have to be responsive to what problems are staring us in the face.
6. Is teacher performance adequate within your district? Are teacher's salaries adequate given current state budget condition? What can be done to improve overall teacher performance and morale?
- Answer:** Teachers are and always have been an undervalued asset, it's a thankless job oftentimes. One bad teacher can wreck an entire opinion of a profession. As we are seeing a nation-wide shortage in teachers, we have to come up with ways to retain and incentivize teaching staff. Supporting our teachers in classroom management, decreasing unnecessary workload in terms of burdensome paperwork for "box-checking", giving them quality curriculum that they can be proud and excited to teach would help these situations. And, listening to what teachers inside the classroom are saying instead of a far removed admin that has never been inside of a classroom.
7. What type of teacher evaluation system and administrator evaluation system do you support?
- Answer:**
8. Is your superintendent's and other high-level administrator's compensation in line with job performance? Why or Why not?
- Answer:** Being elected to the board allows me the ability to see in greater detail what is truly happening on the board to warrant the high compensation that our superintendent receives. It's a difficult job that should be compensated to the degree of difficulty, and being able to make that judgement call while having factual knowledge allows me to make better decisions on whether or not admin compensation is in fact reflective of job performance.

9. What is the public relations role of the board? How can the board be accessible to the community? How can a board of education best communicate with its constituent groups? Should Homeschool students be allowed to use publicly funded facilities and equipment?

Answer: The board's job in part is to reflect and respond to the community's voice. Being active in our schools, reachable and responsive to our campus staff, as well as parents who call, and voice concerns would be a better way to communicate what we can and can't do, as well as what we are doing. Parent's who are tax paying citizens should have a right or ability to utilize school property in accordance with safety and instructional boundaries.

10. What is the proper role of TASA and TASB with respect to independent school boards? Do you believe there should be mask or vaccine mandates in public school? Where should these mandates originate, if at all?

Answer: Parents are the first educators and health care providers of their children. A government entity has no right to force those parents to subject their children to vaccine mandates.

11. How do you define Critical Race Theory and do you support its implementation?

Answer: CRT is an idea that is better explored outside of a primary school setting. It is illegal to push that idea inside the State of Texas in a public school classroom. I am against any policy that teacher racial bias in any form.

12. What do you believe about natural/biological male students competing with natural/biological female students in publicly funded athletic programs? Would you support or oppose such programs?

Answer: My belief is that are two genders, male and female, which one is born to at birth, unless by some genetic rarity. A child should only participate in the biologically correct sport. To allow boys to compete in girls' sports not only puts our daughter's safety in jeopardy, on and off playing fields, it puts women's sports as a whole in jeopardy of being lost.

BY RETURNING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, THE CANDIDATE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE. THE ANSWERS ON THE FOREGOING REFLECT THE CANDIDATE'S BEST EFFORTS TO ANSWER THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HONESTLY AND DIRECTLY.

Once this questionnaire has been completed, please email it to: alex@cchc-pac.org.

Please note: You ***must*** return your questionnaire from the email address to which it was sent. Questionnaires returned from any other email address will be considered fraudulent and will ***not*** be recorded and no answers will be published in the voter's guide. CCHC deems a return from the proper email address as authentication of the correct respondent.