

## WCSB Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to share information about yourself, so we can share with the community. Your participation is a great signal that you believe in transparency and will serve with a willing and open mindset - we will post your answers 100% as you wrote them with no editing or associated commentary.

Please submit no later than END OF DAY 3/4/2022

Email \*

nancygarrettschoolboard@gmail.com

Name \*

Nancy Nelson Garrett

District

12

How long have you lived in Williamson County? \*

Since 1970. I am the longest-term Williamson County resident in any of the school board races.

Employer / Occupation \*

Senior Knowledge Leader, Deloitte

Please select all that apply: \*

- My kid(s) currently attend a WCS school (2021-22)
- My kid(s) currently attend a FSSD school (2021-22)
- My kid(s) graduated from WCS
- My kids are not yet school age but will attend WCS or FSSD
- My kid(s) attends private school
- My kid(s) is homeschooled
- I have grandchildren enrolled in WCS (2021-22)

Which FSSD/WCS schools do your children attend? (Write N/A if not applicable) \*

I'm a WCS grad and attended Grassland, BMS, and FHS. My child attended Moore Elementary, Freedom Intermediate and Middle in FSSD, and Centennial HS in WCS.

What is or has been your involvement with Williamson County Schools to date? (e.g. PTO, volunteering, etc.) \*

I have been involved in public school volunteerism my entire adult life. I served in PTO leadership roles each year in FSSD and CHS. At CHS I was the Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer, Vice President, and President of the PTO. Prior to having children, I founded and led Hands On Nashville's relationships with its partner schools.

Please list any professional or personal organizations you're currently or have recently (last 3 years) been involved with, including where you have a Board of Directors seat, sit on a committee, volunteer for, or regularly attend meetings \*

Tennessee School Board Association Board (TSBA) of Directors, At Large Member; also serve on various TSBA committees at the state level. Being elected WCS Board Vice Chair and then Chair has taken up the majority of my time over the past three years.

What compelled you to run for this position? \*

I am passionate about quality public education for all students in our county. I am also passionate about the work of our excellent education professionals who have built and continue to build on our tradition of success.

What do you believe is the most important quality or characteristic for a Williamson County School Board member to possess and exhibit? \*

Just one? There are so many, but since the Board is a team, the commitment to work collaboratively as a team member in the best interest of all students. Also, humility, willingness to learn, work ethic, commitment to put in the extensive time that is required in this role, respect for teachers and staff....and on and on....

What are your thoughts on the School Board races being partisan this year due to the new state legislature that passed in late 2020?

School Board Members should be held to the same standard as teachers and staff, which is to provide non-partisan service to all of our families. WCS' tradition of success has been built on non-partisan elected leadership. We need leaders who are willing to collaborate for the good of our school community, regardless of partisan politics.

What, if any, involvement have you had in local or state politics before running for School Board? \*

Over the years, I've worked on many campaigns for local candidates. I worked on my first campaign as a Grassland Elementary student.

Have you ever spoken at public comment during a School Board meeting? If yes, please provide details on the topic.

Prior to being elected to the Board, yes.

If you had to describe a School Board member's role in 1-2 sentences, what would it be? \*

Per Board Policy 1.101, the role of a Board Member is to provide policy oversight and strategic decision-making for the district. Board Members are also responsible for the building public support for the district.

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How will you communicate with your constituents if elected? Please share links to your Facebook page, Twitter handle, and/or campaign website: \*

<https://www.facebook.com/NancyGarrettD12>

<https://twitter.com/NancyGarrettD12>

(Campaign website to come)

Phone: 615-779-6856

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What are top 3 most pressing issues facing the School Board at this moment? \*

Recruiting and retaining top professional talent for our district

Anti-public-school efforts, including privatization of public schools and other related national efforts

Knowledge and understanding of the role of a School Board—the Board is a policy-making body and not involved in the administrative, day-to-day operations of the district

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If an incumbent, what are you most proud of during your service as a School Board member?

Achieving goals that were on our Board's strategic plan, which was developed prior to the unanticipated pandemic. This success was largely due to WCS' herculean work to keep children in school.

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Do you believe WCS teachers are paid enough?

Yes

No

Do you believe WCS schools are adequately funded for their operational and capital needs?

Yes

No

What do voters need to know about you that we haven't already asked when deciding who to support and vote for as their representative? \*

Regarding answers to the two questions above, our Board and County Commissioners continue to work together to make strides in addressing teacher pay and operations and capital funding.

What voters need to know? I will continue to work tirelessly for WCS and the Williamson County community.

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