

2026 School District Trustee Candidate Questionnaire

Core Responsibilities

- **Set Strategic Direction:** Create multi-year strategic plans and policies that guide student learning and district priorities.
- **Manage Finances:** Approve annual operating budgets and capital plans to ensure public funds support student success.
- **Hire Leadership:** Appoint and evaluate the school district superintendent (or chief executive officer).
- **Represent the Community:** Listen to local families, taxpayers, and Indigenous communities, bringing their concerns to the board table.

Questions:

1. What are your 3 main reasons for running for School Trustee?
Answer:
3 main reasons for running for School Trustee
-Promote Inclusion and Diversity: Bring diverse leadership to the board that fosters and values dynamic, varied perspectives.
-Combat Hunger and Student Anxiety: Champion a universal meal program providing breakfasts and lunches across all school communities.
-Upgrade/New Facilities: Review and improve infrastructure in high-density areas to keep up with growing enrollment.
2. Do you support the replacement of RMS? Many new schools have been built and others renovated to accommodate more students while Rutland Middle School, that is now over 70 years old, has only been renovated. What efforts would you make as a Trustee to have Rutland Middle School replaced rather than 'renovated'? If so how is this going to be achieved? **Answer:**
I strongly support the redevelopment of RMS. School infrastructure should align with city planning and undergo continuous reviews to meet evolving needs. Investing in school facilities is a direct investment in our future citizens.
As a trustee, I will actively support fast-tracked consultations between experts, city planners, and the school community to address these pressing facility needs.
3. Are you in favour of better administration of the rules around EV bikes and scooters? **Answer:**
Yes, I strongly support better management of electric vehicles and e-scooters. Commuting must be safe for everyone—riders and pedestrians alike. A cohesive, well-regulated traffic system across the city will ensure safety for all road users.
4. Are you aware of the traffic jams on Rutland road as a result of uncontrolled crossing at RMS? If so what are your plans to alleviate the jams? **Answer:**

Yes, I am well aware of the heavy traffic congestion on Rutland Road near the school area. To address this, I will partner with city officials and the school board to prioritize student safety.

While I am not a traffic engineer, I advocate for exploring options like a pedestrian underpass or overpass so students can cross this busy road safely. I plan to bring this proposal directly to city officials.

5. We understand that bullying has become a major issue within School District #23 (Central Okanagan) resulting in some parents removing their child(ren) from one school and placing them in another or even resorting to homeschooling. What would you do to help ensure that the 0 Tolerance Policy is enforced throughout the school district and that victims are heard and not punished for standing up for themselves? **Answer:**

I stand firmly against bullying in all its forms. Every student, regardless of background, belongs here and deserves respect.

Bullying is a harm to our community that must be eradicated completely. Taking a firm stand is essential to protect our students. To build a safe, supportive environment, I advocate for clear boundaries and proactive measures:

- **Clear Standards:** Students will be explicitly informed of expectations and conduct standards.
- **Accountability:** If bullying behavior continues after a warning, the student will face clear, structured consequences.
- **Parental Engagement:** Parents will be notified immediately and brought into the conversation to correct the behavior.

We must take decisive action to ensure our schools remain safe and welcoming for every single student.

6. Too often we hear that students with exceptional needs are not being allowed on school field trips because the support is not there. What efforts would you make as a Trustee to ensure that all students are able to participate equally? **Answer:**

Every student deserves to be treated with dignity and respect, with equal access to the extracurricular activities they choose to pursue. When logistics or resources pose a barrier, the school district should step in to support them.

As a trustee, I will advocate for allocating the necessary funds and facilities to ensure all students have an equal opportunity to participate.