

## **School Board Basics:**

### **Things to Consider When Running for the MISD School Board**

#### The Basic Roles and Functions of the School Board:

- The Board serves as the advocate for educational excellence for the community's youth and puts those interests first.
- This responsibility often entails difficult choices, self-sacrifice and exposure to public criticism.
- We never make decisions based upon personal agendas or other issues outside the goal of providing for the general welfare and well-being of the children.

#### Key Roles and Functions Include:

- Ensure creation of a vision and goals for the district and evaluate district success.
- Adopt policies that inform district actions.
- Hire a superintendent to serve as the chief executive officer of the district and evaluate the superintendent's success.
- Approve an annual budget consistent with district vision.
- Give oversight of Management (Superintendent) – through annual evaluation
  - Superintendent chooses his/her team of managers
  - Board members' interference with day-to-day campus operations is against policy and illegal.

#### Key Points to Remember

- The Board of Trustees along with the Superintendent is a "Team of Eight".
- Each Board member is obligated to vote his/her conscientious.
- Upon the completion of a vote the Board fully supports the agreed upon action in the public sphere.
- Attendance and punctuality to Board meetings is imperative.
- Annual continuing education is required – 10 hours for the first year and 5 hours for existing members.
- Beware of "accidental" meetings via phone, email or social media; all are subject to the Open Meetings Act.

#### Election Etiquette

- Keep the children first.
- Express your ideas w/o name calling.
- Don't resort to personal attacks.
- Social media is not your friend.
- Be a person of high moral integrity.
- You may serve on the Board with your former opponent.