

Sharel Warrington's responses to DPAC and PGDTA Candidate Questions

I am seeking re-election because I am committed to ensuring our public school system provides the highest quality of education for every child. Strong, united voices are needed to address the needs of all our schools, rural and urban. Strong and united voices are needed to build strong partner and community relationships, to promote innovation and learning opportunities that prepare our students for the future and to keep students first in all decisions. I am seeking re-election to be one of those voices.

What is your position on choice of school and programming in SD 57?

Parents and students should have the option to choose the programs that best suit their needs and goals. Trustees must continue to support choice both in our policies and in the delivery of programs. As the district evolves and moves forward to address 21st century learning, greater flexibility in how programs are offered to our students will be required.

How will you ensure parents and other partners are involved in decision making?

The next board must provide greater opportunity for more open and transparent community engagement both informally and formally. Decisions that impact our students, our schools and their communities require input from all involved. These decisions need to be shared in an open and transparent manner where concerns and suggestions can be exchanged and thoughtfully discussed.

What specific action would you take to ensure better classroom composition for the students of SD 57?

There needs to be open and transparent discussion regarding the organization of our classrooms. Teachers, parents, administrators and trustees need to sit together and discuss the issues related to class composition. We can all agree that additional funding is needed to improve the learning and working conditions in our classrooms. However we must also consider how else we can ensure that every child in every classroom is receiving the support needed to be a successful learner. We must urge the government to address legislation related to class composition. We must work together to be the voice and change agents for our students.

How do you plan to advocate for District 57 even if it means opposing government initiatives

If re-elected I will ensure the new board takes a more proactive position when responding to government initiatives. We must be prepared to speak and act on behalf of the best interests of all students especially if we know legislative change or mandated initiatives would not be in the best interests of our students.

How will you ensure teachers have input in the implementation of 21st century learning initiatives.

When new mandates for change are proposed either at the provincial or district level, teachers need to be involved in the planning and implementation of change initiatives from the beginning. As a trustee my role is to advocate for this involvement. District 57 has exceptional teachers doing exceptional work in their classrooms and schools. It is in our classrooms and our schools that innovation will have the most powerful impact. It is the expertise and professional knowledge of our teachers and administrators working together that will lead to innovation and new approaches that address 21st century learning. Teacher leadership in our schools and within our district has made a significant contribution to moving educational initiatives forward, this leadership must continue to be acknowledged, supported and encouraged.

