

Candidates Questions Reply from Trish Bella

DPAC

1) I have been involved within Sd57 for over 10 years now, first as a parent volunteer at the school level progressing up to district level involvement. My dedication and passion for Public Education lies within this district for all of our students. I wish to see every one of our students given the opportunity to become the best they can be and have the access to a public school education system that supports their needs. During my first term as a Trustee I have been able to build relationships within the District and throughout the province that have enabled me to become a champion and respected voice for our entire district. I wish to continue my work on behalf of all students, teachers, parents and employees of Sd57 by being re-elected to the Board of Education.

2) We can agree that learning is different for each of us. By offering choice in educational programs we can address those differences. Choice allows our students the opportunity to succeed and parents the choice in programming they wish to see their child attend. With the focus on the 21st Century Learner and personalized learning I feel choice programming and ease of access for that choice will offer great opportunity for achieving that success.

3) I wish to see the involvement of parents and all partners take place earlier in the consultation process. We need the feedback and discussions to take place prior to moving forward with policy writing and re-writing. This would see necessary changes that reflect the current needs of the District are addressed and met.

PGDTA

1) Although not required by the Ministry, the Superintendents report on class size needs to include a break out of those students on IEPs in the classes where over the limit legislated. When the Board has this information on an ongoing basis the Trustees will be better able to address and voice concerns at the District and Ministry / Provincial level. Armed with this data collected on a continual basis we will have a stronger voice for action for both additional funding and assistance in those classrooms.

2) I have always been an independent voice for SD57. I will always work in the best interest of our District. I understand and respect the role of Trustee for each of the Districts and realize that we must speak up for our own Districts needs which can very well differ from others. Locally elected board of education must retain their autonomy. One-size fits all does not work in the classroom, nor does it work when addressing individual District needs.

3) We need to ensure the line of communication is kept very open and that everyone understands that it is open and his or her comments, concerns and opinions are heard and respected. Then we must invite that input continually. The teachers are on the front lines of the change. We need to make sure that useful and appropriate ProD programs are made accessible to our teachers. We need to continue to work with the Faculty of Education of UNBC to ensure that the student and new teachers are prepared for success in their profession while we undergo these changes. We also need to make sure our resources keep up with this change to a more personalized learning focus.