



Jane Bell

Candidate for Corpus Christi Independent School District Board of Trustee, At-Large

1) Tell us a little about yourself.

I was elected to the CCISD Board of Trustees in November 2012 as an At-Large representative. I am the current School Board President. I received my Bachelor of Journalism from the University of Texas at Austin and have been a Corpus Christi resident for 42 years. My husband, Philip and I have four children who are all CCISD graduates. I have been active in several PTAs and Booster Clubs over the past 25 years.

Current Community Involvement:

- Corpus Christi Education Foundation
- Corpus Christi Symphony Board
- POPS in The Park co-chair for past 8 years
- Nueces County Coastal Park Board Commissioner
- Governor Abbott appointee to Nueces River Authority.
- Leadership Corpus Christi

Past Community Involvement:

- Catholic Charities
- Junior League of Corpus Christi
- Charity League
- Mayor's Fitness Council
- Coastal Bend Diabetes Initiative
- Founding Board Member of John Paul II High School
- Executive Director for the American Diabetes Association 1999-2011

Positions held on School Board

- Chair of Curriculum and Instruction Committee
- Chair of Fiscal Committee
- Chair of Legislative Affairs Committee
- Served as Secretary, Vice President
- Board President 2016, 2017 and 2020

2) Why are you running for office?

I am running for re-election because our district is facing a once-in-a-generation challenge and we need experienced leadership to meet this challenge head on. When I was first elected as a school board trustee CCISD had 18 failing schools. In a tremendous turnaround effort by the administration, faculty and school board, we no longer have failing schools and under the new accountability system the district earned a "B" rating with several schools earning an "A". As we navigate back to normal to restore our learning community and close the learning gap, my proven record of leadership and experience will bring continuity and stability to the board and process.

3) What will you do different in office than the previous candidate?

I will continue to work to support strong public schools that empower our children and our teachers, a responsive and responsible board that listens to the concerns of parents and taxpayers, and school campuses that promote a safe and supportive learning environment.

4) What experience or qualifications do you have that makes you the best choice for this office?

It is a privilege and honor to serve our school district. Quite frankly I love the work I do for our district, our children and our community. As a mother of four CCISD graduates I was "boots on the ground" as a homeroom mother, classroom volunteer, PTA and Booster Club in the elementary, middle and high school levels for a cumulative 25 years. As a community volunteer and through my past job experience, I have worked and collaborated with leaders at the state and local levels on educational projects benefitting our community.

I have gone through extensive continuing education hours with Texas Association of School Boards as well as Lone Star Governance training which focuses on student outcomes. I have held several leadership roles on the school board. This knowledge, experience and steady leadership is the expertise I carry into the next four years to move this district forward to be exceptional.