

Williams Bay Schools Board of Education Candidate Profile: Sam Perkins

1) Why am I running for school board?

First and foremost, I am running for a position on the School Board as a way to give back. Having graduated from the Bay myself, plus having two kids who also graduated from the Bay, and with two more currently attending, I can attest to the importance of the Williams Bay School in my life. The Bay provides a unique mix of academic and extracurricular opportunities within the caring and supportive atmosphere of a small, very special school. We have a strong administration and an outstanding group of teachers. As a School Board representative, I will bring the added benefit of being a current parent who will truly hear the voice of everyone in our community. My goal is to find out how to make Williams Bay the number one choice for every child in our District.

2) What are my qualifications?

Having had the experience of owning my own small business and currently working in the people-oriented sales world, I believe I can offer some important advantages to the residents of Williams Bay. I will be able to review and understand the school budget, and look for opportunities within it to be a good steward of our community tax dollars. One of the most important keys to the success of any business or community effort is retaining good talent and I will be committed to using our budget to retain the very best teachers and staff. My goal will be to honor the excellence we have already built, while using my outgoing nature and a collaborative, team-building approach to listen to our stakeholders and seek to do even better!

3) What do I feel are the current challenges facing education/school boards?

To get a sense of how I will rise to the challenges facing our schools today, I would say that the way I have run my campaign is an example of the way I would serve on the School Board. I have sought to be transparent, available, and respectful. I started running my campaign early, by providing a Facebook page, posting a dedicated email address for questions and comments, and hosting a "Meet and Greet" event where I invited the community to stop by and talk with me about what's important to them. I will bring this same energy and enthusiasm to serving on the Board, working to create a partnership between schools, parents, and our local community. One comment I have heard repeatedly is that parents feel they are being pushed out of their children's education. My commitment will be to advocate for parents to play an appropriate, and important, role in their child's education, beginning with allowing them to have access to the curriculum being taught at each grade level.

Thank you