



BRIAN M. TRAVIS

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QUESTION #1

**As PTA leaders we believe that our children's education is a team effort. Describe ways in which you have contributed to this effort, and communicated with district staff, the administration, organizations, government officials, and other stakeholders to share ideas and solve problems for our students and community.
Bonus question: which PTAs do you belong to?**

RESPONSE #1

Net Yet Applicable

QUESTION #2

One of Washington State PTA's top legislative issues is: "Supports and Funding for Students with Disabilities and Their Families". Do you think this needs more attention and if so, what would you do to advocate for supports and funding for Special Education?

RESPONSE #2

It is important to provide students with differing levels of physical and intellectual ability the structural support they need while making every effort to make them feel as much a part of their school as everyone else. To the child's mind fitting in is everything and I am of the opinion that the special needs child needs to feel they "fit in" in their own special way.

QUESTION #3

Northshore School District has a Strategic Plan with Four Building Blocks. "Building Block 1: Equitable Access to Personalized and Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning. Teaching and learning is the central function of our school system. We will advocate for standards, practices and programs that engage every student in challenging work, regardless of their current level of performance. And, because 'one size does not fit all,' we will differentiate and scaffold instruction and supports to meet the unique strengths, backgrounds, readiness, and learning styles of each student." What does Building Block 1 mean to you and how would you approach it as a school board director?

RESPONSE #3

"Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning?" How about treating all children equally regardless of race, creed, color or ethnicity; we are one nation, one America, this incessant obsession with constanting ramming diversity down the throats of young children is harmful and divisive, while "one size does not fit all" erecting a system where each class and race is treated differently is a perverse form of reverse segregation and frankly disgusting. As for what building block 1 means to me? It is the one I'll seek to tear down first and place with the once widely accepted idea that "all men and women are created equal"

QUESTION #4

Two of Washington State PTA's top legislative issues are: "Increase Access to Nursing, Mental Health, and Social Emotional Learning Staff" and "Prevent and Reduce Gun Violence and Suicide". This coincides with the concerns of many Northshore families as well. The district has mental health supports at every school including staff and curriculum. For example, every elementary school of at least 500 students has a full-time mental health counselor and smaller schools have a half-time counselor. What is the district doing well? What should it be doing to better to support students' mental health and safety?

RESPONSE #4

Providing based counseling services to children that remind them that they serve a greater and higher calling than themselves; when a child is taught that they are the product only of biological evolution they fail to see the eternal consequences of their actions thus they equally fail to see the value of the human lives they are taking whether it be their own or that of their classmates. The introduction of intelligent design and the intrinsic value of all living things including human life would go far to reduce both suicide and gun violence.

QUESTION #5

Funding is basically fixed and so new spending in one area means making cuts somewhere else.

Some of the things that Northshore has chosen to spend their money on are: the 7-period day for high school, and staffing for nurses & counselors beyond what the state provides. Where do you think we need to spend more of our resources and where would you cut spending to make it work budget-wise?

RESPONSE #5

This requires greater study and research to reach an adequate conclusion.

QUESTION #6

What is a school board member's role and responsibility under the law and under Policy Governance? How does that role differ from the role of the superintendent or the administration?

RESPONSE #6

My understanding is that the school board establishes policies, created budgets, and administers matters of administrative regulation it is the superintendents and administrators whom provide actual classroom instruction and make the everyday operational decisions that take place within each school.

QUESTION #7

Within our school district, there is a lot of residential building. Overcrowding is a major issue in many of our schools as well as portables and buildings that are old and need maintenance. What are the steps you would suggest the district take to alleviate these issues?

RESPONSE #7

Having seen how widely used "Zoom school" was used the option of permitting highly performing self directed students that have shown the ability to self direct their own learning seems appropriate for dealing with this.



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