

APW CSD
Board of Education Candidates
Questions from Faculty Association, CSEA, PTSA and Sports Boosters

Please consider addressing the following questions in your response during the “Meet the Candidate” segment of the May 11th Budget Hearing. These questions are not mandatory. The Faculty Association, CSEA, PTSA and Sports Boosters were invited to submit questions for the candidates and this is what they submitted. It is your choice whether or not to respond to them during your session.

Also, we would like to feature your name, photo and a brief commentary about you on the District Facebook page during the week of May 3 – 7th. If you would like your responses to these questions included, let me know. Otherwise, please submit your commentary to me by Monday, May 3rd.

My name is Brad Tanner and I am a lifelong resident of the Altmar-Parish-Williamstown Community. I own a local business of inground pool installation and have been consistently doing this type of work for 18 years. I live in the district with my wife and 4 children. We have a small farm and truly enjoy being able to live in this beautiful, relaxing community.

- How will you support the teachers in acquiring new programming for their classes?

I would be open to new opportunities and programming that teachers would like to bring to their classrooms. I value the staff at APW and feel that they have the students best interest in mind. I welcome any new ideas that will help innovate our students and prepare them for college or career ready skills.

- What is your vision of the relationship between the BOE and the staff of the district?

I believe that the BOE should be supportive of the staff while providing students a safe and inclusive learning environment.

- What knowledge or experience working with the district do you bring to this position?

Being a parent of students in the district I have had many opportunities to work with staff, coaches and administration on areas of academics, extracurricular and athletics. I believe that a strength I bring is effective communication, follow through and ability to build relationships.

- What is your vision for sports at APW? Do you see us as looking to be competitive or merely offering an intramural type program for fun and exercise?

In the APW community I feel that many students are not able to participate in sports due to financial and transportation inequities. It would be beneficial to invest in our athletic program to ensure that students are able to have the required equipment to participate. Investing in our athletic program will then allow for more student involvement which will make for a more competitive environment.

- What ideas do you have to get more students involved in sports?

Again investing in our athletic program will allow for more selection of sports for student to participate in; for example a boys soccer team, field hockey, lacrosse to name a few.

- What role would you like to see Sports Boosters play?

I am aware that our Sports Boosters main source of fundraising comes from the concession sales I would really love the opportunity to learn more about what other fundraising opportunities the Sports Boosters provide to help bring in money to our athletic programs to provide more opportunities for all students.

- Why are you running for the board?

I feel being a board member is a way that I can give back to my community and the district. I am passionate about student achievement, offering more programs and opportunities for our students while ensuring that all students have a safe and inviting environment while they are at school. I feel that I have a lot to offer and my own personal experiences will be a great asset to the BOE.

- Do you have children in school?

Yes, I have three students currently in the district and my oldest graduated last school year.

- Are you in favor of no tax increase to the tax payer?

This is a tough topic. Although I feel for the community members that experience a financial strain due to a tax increase I do believe that at times it is necessary to increase the budget to improve student learning and to ensure that our staff have the resources needed to continue educating our students.

- How do you define leadership and how do you support good leadership throughout the school from

Superintendent, to building administration, and throughout the faculty, staff, and even young people within the district? To expand upon this, with many positions opening up due to retirements and otherwise, how does the school entice faculty to join the APW family and how do we focus on staff retention ongoing in order to sustain consistent and dependable resources for our APW community?

Leadership to me is working collaboratively with the school, the community and all stakeholders. It means working effectively to ensure the best opportunities are being provided to our students.

Leaders need to be responsive, empathetic and dedicated to the mission and vision of our school.

As a leader it is vital that the new staff understand the importance of our schools mission and vision to ensure the buy in. All staff should be putting our vision of every learner prepared for their individual chosen path at the forefront of their daily practice in their classroom and embedded in their curriculum. Believing in the potential of each student, and providing diverse opportunities and a competitive education for all learners needs to be the focus of all staff at APW. Creating a positive school culture will increase the sustainability of our staff at APW.

- There are many needs to address in supporting a young learner; from food stability to emotional regulation to special education accommodations to enrichment opportunities and beyond. How will you facilitate support and guidance for ALL learners at APW?

I believe that APW has done an outstanding job of putting layers of Social Emotional needs into our school recently. The school has a clothing closet, therapy dog, backpack program along with providing meal distribution to our community. With the hope of students returning in the fall after over a year of inconsistency and unknown it is more important than ever to continue focusing on the Social Emotional and basic needs of our students. I am in full support of these programs continuing and the creation of new opportunities to help support our students.

- Communication is important to help to include and involve the entire district and community as well as to promote transparency. Communication has historically been a focus that continues to be in question and ongoing communication needs perpetually exist. How do you promote communication and how do you define appropriate and effective communication?

As a business owner communication is the most important aspect of my business succeeding. I work regularly with contractors and homeowners where it is imperative that I keep communication between all. I field numerous phone calls, emails throughout the day and return any unanswered calls/emails in a timely manner. I understand and value the importance of regular, professional and effective communication and feel it is one of the most important factors of a leader.