

I, Michael Hale Sr. have been a board member for the APW School for 18 years as a member and served seats of Vice President and President. I have worked with different Board of Education members from the community and I have served on all of the various district committees. I have been involved in several building projects for the district.

As a Board of Education member, I see our world changing rapidly each day. Board members, teachers and Administrators have had to adjust to meet these changes as well by sometimes having to make changes daily, to prepare our students for an ever changing world. We will always need to keep up to date with the latest technology, books, equipment and facilities to make sure our students have what they need to be able to enter college or the work force whatever they choose to do. Our school can only operate on the local tax base, state and federal monies. As a board member I will strive to help our school system have what it needs to prepare our students to meet our daily changing world.

As always, we need to have better communication between our school board and everyone in the system not just administration. I would look into ways that the board can be approached with confidence that the issues will be taken care of.

First and foremost school boards look out for our students. Education for all students should be at the top of the list. As a school board member I am the voice of the community in how their taxes are being used to achieve what is best for students, staff and the facilities.

The role of a school board member is to make sure the school district stays financially stable and to support staff and students. We also as members need to support as many activities as we can, such as supporting our local food distribution and emotionally supporting our students that have had to adapt to so much change and instability. As well as supporting our staff members and special education departments with accommodations they will need to support the students in their classrooms.

The solution is simple teachers, they are the absolute backbone of each school district. As a board member I must try at every opportunity to enhance, create and promote a culture of energy. Energy doesn't travel from the staff/faculty up, it flows down from administrators and the board. The board creates the tone of which type of culture the school will operate. We must make it an energetic and positive culture!