



CONROE ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES - CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Candidate Name: Marianne Horton
2. Highest Level of Education: Bachelor's Degree
3. Current Job Title: Self Employed
4. Age: 43
5. Party Affiliation: Republican
6. Religion: Christian
7. Marital Status: Married
8. Number Of Children: 2
9. Contact Email: MarianneForCISD@yahoo.com
10. Contact Phone: 346-382-5071
11. Campaign Website URL: MarianneForCISD.com
12. Campaign Social Media URL/Handles: www.facebook.com/MarianneforCISD
13. Have You Been Finally Convicted of a Felony? No
14. Number Of Years Living in Montgomery County: 7

POLITICAL QUESTIONS:

1. Clubs / Community Organizations You Are a Member Of:
Junior League of The Woodlands, National Charity League - Magnolia Chapter,
McCullough Junior High PTO Board, Mitchell Intermediate PTO, Project Mentor and

Ascend Bible Study at The Woodlands Methodist Church

2. Endorsements You Have Received: Melanie Bush (former Conroe ISD Board Member) and Christian Collins (Texas Youth Summit Founder)

3. Political Action Committees You Have Contributed To: The Woodlands Republican Women, Montgomery County Tea Party, Montgomery County GOP

4. Candidates/Elected Officials You Have Supported for Office and/or Generally Align With:

Donald Trump, J.D. Vance, Ted Cruz, Tim Scott, Morgan Lutrell, Ron DeSantis, Steve Toth, Ritch Wheeler and Kent Chambers

5. Have You Ever Voted in a Democrat Primary or for a Democrat Candidate? If yes, please explain your answer.

No

6. Have You Ever Donated Money to Democrat Candidates or Organizations? If yes, please explain your answer.

No

OFFICE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:

1. Why are you seeking to serve on this Board?

As a Conroe ISD parent, volunteer and former teacher, I want to add value to board decisions that would support our students and teachers. Right now, discipline problems are disrupting our classrooms without consequence, and our teachers feel unsupported by the policy and their administrations. I want to address this major issue and others to help create safe learning environments for which our students to academically grow.

2. What qualifications do you bring to this Board?

I taught 8th grade language arts at McCullough Junior High; I previously taught pre-AP high school English in Spring Branch, and I have been a district substitute for three years. Through my teaching and substituting experiences, I have engaged with students and teachers in all grade levels throughout our district and discussed their concerns. I also have served as a PTO Board Member on two different boards and on the 2023 bond

committee, which has provided me with insight into planning, budgeting and funding our schools and activities. I currently volunteer on the Student Health Advisory Council and as a Project Mentor. Both of these experiences have provided additional background into our students' physical and mental health needs.

3. What leadership positions have you held, including elected office and appointments, that you believe would benefit the Board?

I have served as the Communications Vice President for the Birnham Woods Elementary PTO and as the Communications Chair for the Giving Gown Project with Junior League of The Woodlands. When it comes to our children, I think communication between the district, parents and teachers is extremely important. Board members need to build lines of communication between all stakeholders and to be willing to listen and address concerns. Working on the 2023 Bond Committee and with the district's Community Collaborative provided me with a bigger picture on funding and staffing, the knowledge of which would also benefit the board.

4. Do your children (or **did** your children if they are now adults) attend Conroe ISD? If not, can you explain what led you to decide to educate them in an alternative school setting? My children have been in the district since 2017. Our family chose public education because we like the community element of it. We love that our children can go to school with their neighbors.

5. CISD has a budget deficit. If the State does not make adjustments in the 2025 Legislative Session to handle this, what is your plan to combat the budget shortfalls?

Moving forward, we need to prioritize funding to the classroom. We are spending too much money on new administrative positions that not only cost more but also place extra burdens on our teachers. To address the budget shortfall, we could cut the administrative waste. I think we could also benefit from a third-party audit to identify other areas of overspending and to allocate existing resources appropriately.

6. What is your stance on Governor Abbott's proposed school voucher program, also known as education freedom? Do you plan to campaign for, or against, the program at the Capitol, or do you wish to remain neutral?

As a public school board member, I would do everything I could to protect the best interest of our public school students. I would expect the same of any advocate for any other type of schooling - private or homeschool. As a homeowner, I believe how we fund our public schools does impact our property values. My family moved where we did because of the public schools.

7. The Texas legislature banned biological males from participating in female sports. Do you agree with this decision? Please explain your answer.

I absolutely agree with this legislation. As the mother of a daughter, I do not think it is fair to allow biological males to participate in female sports. Female sports were created because of biological differences in speed and athleticism. The fact this has even become a topic of discussion is ludicrous to me.

8. Montgomery County has a library book policy in place that designates specific areas in the library for adult content, which includes topics on lifestyles that are alternative to the traditional family / heterosexual / two gender unit. Do you agree with this decision? Please explain your answer.

I agree with the decision it should be left up to the parent to what his or her child is exposed. Unfortunately, many of these books also include explicit sex scenes. I would not want my own children to accidentally stumble upon one of these books.

9. Any final thoughts you would like to share with the Montgomery County Republican Club's audience?

Thank you so much for reaching out. My ultimate desire is to provide the best education for our students. Much of that starts with supporting our teachers and our schools. Our district - like others across the state and nation - recently has fallen on some tough times, financially and with a teacher and staff shortage. However, we live in an amazing community, so I am confident that if we work together and stay focused on our students, we can make Conroe ISD great.