



CONROE ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES - CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Candidate Name: Jamison Gentle
2. Highest Level of Education: Bachelor of Arts
3. Current Job Title: Small Business Owner
4. Age: Fortyseven
5. Party Affiliation: Republican
6. Religion: Christian
7. Marital Status: Married
8. Number Of Children: Five
9. Contact Email: jamisongentle@protonmail.com
10. Contact Phone: None
11. Campaign Website URL: None
12. Campaign Social Media URL/Handles: None
13. Have You Been Finally Convicted of a Felony? No
14. Number Of Years Living in Montgomery County: Five

POLITICAL QUESTIONS:

1. Clubs / Community Organizations You Are a Member Of:
Volunteer at church as a kids club leader/ teacher.
2. Endorsements You Have Received:
3. Political Action Committees You Have Contributed To:
4. Candidates/Elected Officials You Have Supported for Office and/or Generally Align With:

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:

Why are you seeking to serve on this Board?

I have a vested interest in the future of my own five children in the CISD school system. My wife is a fourth grade teacher in CISD. And feeling personally led to action by my faith to offer my time to volunteer to serve our larger CISD community. While there were multiple options to serve; I selected Conroe ISD board of trustees position 4. I represent a concerned community that supports family values, faith, and freedom.

1. What qualifications do you bring to this Board?

First I bring common sense, dedication, and resolve to keep CISD schools excellent. I have a decade plus in management experience; from experience as a retail store manager to small business owner. My experience with organizational management: budgets and fiscal reports, smart goal setting and making target fiscal goals a reality, coaching individuals and building teams, participating in leadership meetings and making difficult inquiries and decisions. These skills has prepared me to continue the work of Trustee position 4 to effectively handle the task of a servant leader for the CISD community.

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

I have been a leader in the business community as a store manager and field operations manager. I create jobs and tirelessly labor to achieve project completion goals as a small business owner. I continue to volunteer as children's clubs and VBS leader/ teacher here in Conroe.

3. 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 five children all attend CISD schools.

4. 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?

While CISD is not alone in Texas having a shortfall for a '24-'25 budget, there are other districts that have pulled together and passed a balanced budget. There are a multitude of options to address this issue but not limited to:

- A. The first recommendation I have heard from the district is for the board to add 1 cent tax; option is what they called "penny taxing". The district has the option to fill the gap in funding by increasing the tax rate of taxpayers. It is easy to solve a problem by printing more money, but is it justified? Where is the transparency in the budget shortfall? I suggest waiting on raising taxes until budget cuts are exhausted and distinct benefits and cost of benefits are identified such as; the incentive of competitive compensation for CISD teachers, CISD police officers added to meet security risks for campuses.
- B. The board can reduce the largest budget expense which is payroll. I have not seen the detailed budget report. My first question is how much are "out of classroom personnel" and "administrative roles" as a percentage of payroll? Other line items should be looked at to reduce overspending.

- C. The board could expedite the 2025 increase to the rental fees for use of CISD campus and equipment, but unlikely this alone would be enough to make up the deficit.
 - D. There are curriculum expenses that are beyond the core, what could be called “ additional resources” could be reduced, but unlikely this alone would be enough to make up the deficit.
 - E. There was approval for some new vehicle purchases in the August board meeting. This could be postponed until the budget is balanced, but unlikely this alone would be enough to make up the deficit.
 - F. Finally CISD as well as everyone else needs to live within their means. This will mean carefully taking out some extras the district has enjoyed in surplus years, but as in life, there are dry spells too. Tradeoffs have to be made so as not to pass debt along to the next year.
5. 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?

For decades the department of education has held a monopoly on education. With this program I see every child holding a dollar value that their parents can use to direct their child's education; to access education they believe is best for their child is a huge victory for Texan’s freedom. This will likely reduce the burden to parents who have chosen private school or home school while paying taxes into public schools. This opens new opportunities, likely driving the market to improve educational offerings for everyone. I see CISD continue to offer great value for the taxpayers dollars, and as such, this should minimally affect the district.

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

This is a common sense approach to keep children safe and secure. My understanding is there are only male and female children registered in public schools. And my expectation as a parent, with children in CISD schools, is that CISD employees hold male and female children accountable to only be in their appropriate designated male and female areas as well as sports teams.

7. 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.

Children need to be cared for, loved, and protected. It is good oversight to create hedges and barriers for children to keep them physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually safe. Parents have a lot of work, in a climate of influencers and indoctrinations, to protect our children from unwanted worldly influences. That being said, I agree with the plan the Montgomery county library has partnered with parents to keep our children safe.

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

The future of the CISD board of Trustees has a daunting task ahead. The Board and Superintendent must balance the budget, working through the difficult conversations to make it happen. If we want to keep our community safe, we have to say enough is enough. Like Colonel Travis at the Alamo, we must draw a line in the sand to set common sense policy. Starting with removing inappropriate books from school libraries, and keeping bathroom/ locker room areas safe for boys and girls accordingly. Give parents peace of mind with secure buildings and appropriate levels of security officers for all schools. Finally, we need more transparency in our administration about its fiscal reporting and clear policy guidelines about these issues. In an era where government deception is flagrant, setting policy to be more transparent is a big win for the people.