



SD 61 TRUSTEE CANDIDATE SURVEY 2011 Municipal Elections

CANDIDATE NAME:
David Rand

1. Do you support a fully funded budget that meets the needs of all students? (a 'needs' budget)

YES

2. Will you vote to submit only a fully funded 'needs' budget to the Minister of Education?

YES

3. How will you vote when the Superintendent's Report on Class Size and Composition is in violation of Bill 33?

REJECT

4. Some districts send the Superintendent back to use surplus funds to improve class size and composition. Will you vote to send the Superintendent back to produce a revised report that uses surplus funds to improve class size and composition?

YES

5. What is your position on Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA) testing?

I'm an advocate for having a genuine "White Paper" on education. FSA's merits and obvious flaws will easily be a chapter in a process for a better way. I know the present systems aren't working but I know a better approach is necessary.

6. How will you engage and improve parental and citizen participation in public education issues?

My commitment to a "White Paper" will automatically improve parental and citizen participation, including all sorts of interest groups that haven't been included, for example: chambers of commerce, social service providers, daycare providers, and any groups relating to children like theatre or arts groups.

7. Will you accept invitations to go visit a classroom regarding specific problems?

YES

8. If you are an incumbent trustee have you ever been invited to visit a classroom regarding specific problems?

N/A

9. Do you think that special education is adequately funded?

NO (but I think that's true at all levels of education)

If "NO", what should change?

Obviously more money, see above.

10. What should be done with the current District Strategic Facilities Plan? (Stantec Report)

SCRAP THE REPORT

11. How many hours per month will you commit to the role of Trustee including meetings?

31+ hours per month (I think that's an honest assessment for what would be a new trustee's commitment given by a desire to have a complete "White Paper" on education.)

12. What are your thoughts and comment's on user fees that parents pay for, such as academies, sports equipment, math workbooks, technical equipment, planners?

Sometimes, but rarely, I can see why they are applicable. A healthy discussion needs to be had on this and many other related aspects of education.

13. What is your experience in parliamentary procedure and committee work?

See www.davidrand.me – "Who is this Guy?"

14. Do you live in the SD 61 boundaries?

YES

15. If you have children, what type of schools do they or have they attended?

PUBLIC
PRIVATE
HOME-SCHOOLED

All of the above (yes-I'm telling the truth!)

16. What methods would you use to provide accountability & transparency?

The same I've used all my life. I believe I enjoy working in the community, and I believe in keeping the community involved. This role is that of a *public* school trustee, yes, I know the LLL (land, labour and legal) should

be at first dealt with “in-camera”, however a well run school board should have very little need to have LLL issues. This is a public school board, and should be treating the public as if they can trust their trustees.

17. Would you vote for a motion to have all votes recorded and published annually?

YES

18. How else would you inform the public about your positions and actions on issues?

An easy example is the social media platforms used during an election can be used after the election. I have a clear and honest approach to informing people of my positions on issues. For more info on my public involvement again I suggest seeing www.davidrand.me

19. Do you support Kindergarten/Grade 1 split classes?

NO - In due deference to Kindergarten teachers, kindergarten is still a lot closer to paint, play and nap (possibly a tad unfair). Grade 1 is that gentle transition into a structured learning environment, if schools are properly funded this question won't need to be asked.

20. What are your thoughts on the involvement of private corporations in the public education system?

Great question for a “White Paper”. Generally speaking, I don't feel there is any role for private corporations in public education. That said, technically “Sesame Street”, while publicly funded is a U.S. based private corporation for the purpose of any materials we wish to use in Canada.

21. Please tell us anything else you think may be important or relevant to your candidacy for School Trustee in SD 61.

Please see www.davidrand.me