



Justin Nena

1. What particular experiences or skills have prepared you to serve as a board member?

I have spent the last 21 years working in and growing our family business. Through a people driven focus, we have grown our company from 20 employees to over 70 employees. Developing our team through training, personal development and cultivating a positive culture has been the vital in our growth. I daily interact, coach and counsel individuals from all walks of life. These experiences and the processes we have implemented gives me the foundation to be a valuable board member. My wife Heather and I are fortunate to have 3 children currently enrolled in Germantown Hills Schools. I currently serve on Germantown Hills EDC and have served on the Germantown Hills ESDA board.

2. What do you see as the primary work of the board of education?

The primary work of the board of education is to work with the superintendent to craft policies, curriculums and financial matters to strengthen the school district and facilitate the greatest academic and personal growth of our students.

3. What is a school board member's role and responsibility?

The role and responsibilities of a school board member is to always act and vote with the best interest of the community, school district staff and students. Members are obligated to educate themselves through independent research as well as listening to the voices of our staff and community. The member must be willing to collaborate with the other board members to ensure that all decisions are free of personal biases and are fiscally and morally responsible.

4. What is your vision for education in the Germantown Hills School District Community?

We are blessed to be a part of an amazing school district with amazing teachers and staff. I envision the district to continue to excel even further in both academic and extracurricular activities.

5. What do you see as the major issue(s) facing our school district? Public education?

I see three major challenges for most school districts. I feel that a quality family life at home is the most important factor that affects children's performance. The second issue are the financial woes of most school districts. Lastly, having a sound and challenging curriculum that gives each individual student a solid base for any direction they will go in their futures. Fortunately, we are part of Germantown Hills School District 69, where these issues are not of major concern. This puts us in a great place to help the families in the district who are burdened with some of these challenges.

6. How does a school board balance the need to provide a quality education with the need to respond to the local taxpayer burden?

Our job is to give the children the opportunity to have absolute best education possible. We need to operate within our budget giving our constituents the best possible value for their investment. We must be in line with other communities in regards our tax burden and look for ways to increase our value without raising this burden on our home owners.

7. Why should you be elected to the Board of Education?

I feel my experience in a family owned business will give me a unique perspective that I can bring to the board. As a local business we see different challenges than corporate and public companies. We must do more with less while maintaining a higher standard of service. We have to think outside the box and come up with new and innovated niches to differentiate ourselves from our competition. Using what I have learned from these experiences will equip me to be an effective member of the board. I will be diligent and always vote based on what is morally and financially right for the community and what is most beneficial to the students in our school district.