

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JCPS SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE

Candidate Name: James A. Sexton

Age: 69

Campaign Website: N/A

Campaign Facebook Page: N/A

Campaign Twitter Account: N/A

Education : (Please include where you attended grade school)

JCPS - Hazelwood Elem - Southern Jr H.S. - Butler H.S.  
Western Kentucky University

Employment (NOTE: If you worked for JCPS, please indicate when, in what capacity, and why you left).

JCPS 1967 → 2009 Teacher - Butler H.S.  
Counselor - Jeffersontown H.S.  
Asst PRIN - Jeffersontown H.S.  
PRINC. PAI - Jeffersontown H.S.  
PRINC. PAI - Eastern H.S.  
I left JCPS to retire.  
Now at Greater Clark, IND

How long have you lived in Louisville/Jefferson County?

66 years

Do/did your children attend Jefferson County Public Schools? When and what schools?

Yes. Heather - Bloom Elem - Trad M.d. - Male H.S. 1990  
Austin - Bloom Elem - Trad M.d. - Male H.S. 1992

What type of volunteer work have you done within JCPS?

Thousands of hours supervising extra curricular activities + sports

Why are you running for JCPS School Board?

I can make a difference in future Board decisions that will improve JCPS schools.

What are the top three issues facing JCPS and how will you work to address them?

Budget - We need to freeze admin hiring  
Student assignment - needs predictable + home support  
neighborhood schools.  
Graduation Rate - must improve, need vocational options

What do you think of the job that Dr. Donna Hargens has done as Superintendent?

A lot of administrative changes. We shall see. More time needed to evaluate.

What do you think of the current student assignment plan? Would you change it? How?

I do not support the present plan. We are losing large numbers of families to the surrounding counties. I would vote to change to more choice including neighborhood school choice.

How do you define "neighborhood" schools, and do you think JCPS should move to neighborhood schools? What advantages and disadvantages do you see with neighborhood schools?

The next nearest school to your home should be your neighborhood school. I do believe that a great number of parents, especially for elementary first, second + third graders will support.

If JCPS moved to neighborhood schools, how would you accommodate parents who do not wish to send their children to the school designated as their neighborhood school?

The option of magnet schools should remain for parents/students choice. If certain schools are being drained of student talent then transfers should be controlled.

What would you do to improve low performing schools within JCPS?

In some instances you must control the transfers out of the school. Talent drain is a major problem in certain schools. If you reside in a school district you may have to attend.

What would you do to increase parental involvement within JCPS?

Neighborhood schools + conv. ls.

How would you bring back the parents who have left the district for other counties, private schools, or homeschooling?

Neighborhood schools + lower taxes.  
Employ security + nurses for our schools.  
We need to be safe + always have medical staff immediately available.



What issues outside of the classroom do you feel impact performance most? How would you work to mitigate those issues?

students belonging to their schools by being part of clubs, organizations + sports. Our transportation department should be spending money to deliver students home after activities in the evening rather than long drives for enrollment from neighborhoods.

Have you read the JCPS Vision 2015 strategic plan? What are your thoughts on the plan? How would you change the plan or work to support it?

~~I have not read.~~ - Just finished reviewing a very good plan. All parents would want this for sons/daughters. I hope it happens.

If you have/had children in JCPS, what have you found most rewarding about the school system? What frustrated or challenged you the most?

I felt they had a good experience because we were able to select their schools by application. Our early neighborhood stem school really sent them on their way to success.

What would you do to improve the image of JCPS, both inside the county and outside?

Higher Graduation Rate  
more vocational school opportunities  
Additional security + nurses in the schools  
Less transportation problems - neighborhood schools

What will you do to address bullying within JCPS?

Additional security + camera. This is a problem all over America. It can only be controlled if adults listen + react. Discipline is a must.

What is your opinion of the JCTA (Teacher's Union)?

Very political. Should concentrate on academics and professional development for our teachers with the collected dues, less effort towards elections, higher taxes and protection of poor teachers.

How will you work to improve dropout rates?

we must go back to our vocational schools. we closed and should have expanded years ago.

Do you support a charter schools? Why or why not?

NO - charter schools will have a negative effect on all public education success.

What will you do to address state budget shortfalls and their impact on JCPS?

Hiring Freeze on Administration  
Transportation costs. 1000 Buses @ 100 m. 10 s  
each day = \$\$\$\$

What do you think of the job JCPS does to prepare parents for choosing and enrolling their children in the system? What would you do to change the process?

Neighborhood schools should be the first choice.  
Especially for elementary.

What do you think the public's perception of the Board of Education is? What will you do to either change or strengthen that perception?

Negative. Increased taxes each year!  
Improvements in graduation rate + the lowering of drop out students necessary

Do you believe that all JCPS Board of Education sessions, including the evaluation of the superintendent, should be open to the press and public? If not, what issues should be discussed in closed session and why?

suirt evaluation should be closed + litigation's  
Discipline of employees should be closed.  
All other open sessions

How will you make yourself accessible to the community as a school board member?

Neighborhood meetings.  
Neighborhood web site - email - telephone



PERSONAL STATEMENT: Please share any additional comments you'd like to share.

If the same machine is elected because of JCTA monies and influence then the communities of Jefferson County should expect the same as they have and expect higher taxes each year on their homes.

I was not endorsed by JCTA even if I do have 46 years of experience because I would not say yes to two of their questions.

- ① would I agree to always vote for the maximum allowable tax each year?
- ② would I always <sup>↑  
SUPPORT</sup> the JCTA or UNION when the vote would be contrary to the superintendent's wishes?

I said NO to both!