



**Candidate Questions for  
Keller Independent School District Board of  
Trustees**

**Presented by Keller ISD Council of PTAs**

Please submit your answers as a pdf to [president@kellercpta.org](mailto:president@kellercpta.org) by 04/24/2022

Answers will be publicized on KISD and KCPTA social media

1. What guidelines do you think should be adopted by Keller ISD with regard to bullying?  
**Keller ISD has a board policy on bullying and administrative regulations too. I believe that the key thing is to educate students on how to prevent bullying, report it and how to encourage respectful school communities.**
2. As a school board member, how would you respond to the efforts of special interest groups who advocate the censor of existing curriculum perceived by them to be in conflict with their personal beliefs? **It is imperative that board members not give in to special interest groups. We must do what is best for all students, and not allow one small group to dictate curriculum for all students.**
3. Statistics show child abuse is an increasing problem both nationally and locally. Do you believe that it is a legitimate function of public schools to inform students about their rights regarding physical and sexual abuse and the agencies to which they may turn to for help?  
**This is tricky, because some students might not be at an age to understand what is happening. What is most important is that teachers, and others who are mandatory reporters understand their duty and report any suspected abuse.**
4. Keller Independent School District has had to cut many programs, reduce staff, and has been unable to make all needed upgrades and refurbish its facilities due to inadequate funding. As a school board member, what action, if any, would you take to adequately fund our schools? **We must continue to advocate to our state representatives, and push for school funding reform. As we do this we are forced to use fund balance (our savings account) at times, and also look for efficiencies in how we spend money.**
5. Specifically, would you support accepting federal funding (grants)? **We have done this in KISD, and yes I would support this in the future.**
6. As parents, we will pull our children out of a class that has an incompetent teacher; however, as a school board, you are responsible for all children. How will you ensure that teachers are properly evaluated and held accountable? **It is important for the community to know we do this through the superintendent. He must work with his team to evaluate and hold accountable all levels of employees. We have thousands of employees and this is not always easy, but as a board member I ask questions and make sure that the leadership is holding employees accountable.**
7. Schools are valuable community resources. There is a growing movement to have schools become neighborhood resource centers, open to the community earlier in the morning and later in the evening for a variety of uses. Are you aware of this concept and would you support it? What activities would you like to see available during these times? **I would agree that schools can be center or hub for communities. We should partner with**

community members to do this, understanding that using facilities comes at a cost. I am sure their opportunities to use outdoor facilities for sports leagues, indoors for community group meetings, activities or performances. All of this can be explored, and I am open to it, so long as the community groups share in the costs to use the facilities.

8. How do you discuss topics where there is strong disagreement and remain civil? Said another way, how can the board work together with differing opinions? **Board members do disagree at times, but I am a person who always listens and seeks to understand others. I feel we do this well, and we know we can respectfully offer different opinions and work towards consensus.**
9. If elected, once the Keller ISD School Board votes to approve an action or policy, what do you believe is your responsibility to that policy or action, especially if you did not support that policy or action? **As a board member our job is to work with the administration to get things done. We are not elected to be a roadblock or naysayer. However, when I have concerns I talk to the administration. I ask for more information, I offer my ideas, I seek to understand. By the time we get to a vote I should have done my homework and shaped an action item to one I can support. If not, I will vote against it. I believe that should be a rare exception. If it isn't, it means I am not really fulfilling my duty as a board member to get things done.**
10. The STAAR test is a requirement. All students must pass this test in order to graduate from high school. To ensure our students' success, what resources would you commit to? **I am not one who wants us to teach to a test. The best resources for student success are excellent teachers, teaching in classrooms that are not overcrowded. We can use technology, experiential learning, and other innovative strategies but there is no one thing – except high quality teachers that will ensure success on the STAAR.**
11. What is the appropriate relationship between the Keller ISD Governing Board and Site-Based Decision-Making Committees? **This question is not clear to me.**
12. How important are fine arts and extracurricular activities such as athletics to overall education? How should they be funded? **These activities are very important and need to be funded to our best ability. There are times where we will have to ask parents to help cover costs, but the district must recognize the value of these activities to education.**
13. What is your view of home school, private school, and charter school students participating in extracurricular activities in the public schools? **Private school and charter school students can participate at those schools. I'd want to clarify UIL rules on participation. In both those cases those schools receive funding so students can participate at those locations. If they attend KISD then they can participate at our schools, because we receive funding based on our attendance.**
14. How do you see Keller ISD responding to the competition of charter schools and private schools? **I would like to see those schools have to follow the same rules and laws as KISD, as they currently do not have to follow all of the same regulations. I otherwise am happy for us to be competitive with those schools, and I believe we offer as much or more than those schools can offer.**

15. How do you feel about the current teacher/student ratio and what options does Keller ISD have to change it if you feel that is necessary? **I am concerned that student/teacher ratios are getting higher. I have yet to meet a parent or taxpayer who cares about education tell me we should add more students to every classroom. It is a concern though, because if the state does not fix the funding problem we are likely going to be forced to change our ratios.**
16. Do you have any specific changes you want to see made in our schools' curriculum? **We have outstanding professionals who develop and implement curriculum. I do not micro-manage this, but I do ask questions and advocate for KISD to be sound in our curriculum. Specifically I encourage us to have curriculum that is age appropriate, curriculum that challenges students to learn and grow, curriculum that expands students world view and curriculum that prepares them for life after high school.**
17. What is your view of school board/administration's relationships as they relate to management of school district operations? **The board and administration need to have good working relationships. We need open communication, trust and accountability.**
18. What is your position regarding self-esteem and self-worth educational programs? **There is a saying I believe sums this up well. Students will not care to learn until they learn we care. It is basic human psychology that we must help students feel safe and feel they belong before they will be able to learn.**
19. How can the governing board of Keller ISD improve its image in the community? **KISD has an outstanding reputation and image in our area, and in all of the state. People move here for our great schools. I know there is always room to improve, but we are doing very well.**
20. In the face of declining resources, what projects do you foresee for future bond elections and projects? **I think there will be a need for bond projects in a few years, and KISD will do its usual thorough job listening to the community, to teachers, students and others to prioritize needs and develop a proposal. I expect we will have some aging facilities that need work, we may have one more new school, and there may be safety or technology needs.**

