

OSBA SAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR BOARD CANDIDATES/APPLICANTS

The following questions are meant to be thought-provoking and in no way represent a complete list of possible questions for interviewing potential school board members. Questions agreed to by your board best reflect the concerns of the board. Answers should be judged on the acceptability of responses according to your board's standards.

1. Why are you interested in becoming a board member?
2. Are you willing to spend the necessary time, to familiarize yourself with the school district's operations enabling you to function as a contributing member of this board, and to keep abreast of the ever-changing business of schools?
3. Are there aspects of your education and experience that you feel would be especially helpful in this position?
4. If appointed, would you be a candidate for re-election at the next election?
5. Are you willing to assume a leadership role in this community as a member of the body responsible for the management of public schools in this district?
6. What do you believe our schools should be accomplishing?
7. What is the single best thing you know about our schools?
8. What are your beliefs about the roles of the board and superintendent and the difference between policymaking and administration?
9. What are your beliefs regarding the role of management and employee organizations?
10. What criteria do you use in evaluating educational programs?
11. How do you respond to criticism?
12. Do you realize the need for confidentiality? Can you maintain confidentiality?
13. Can you be supportive of our schools?
14. If you disagree with others, can you separate this difference and proceed as a team member after a vote is taken?
15. Are you willing to let administrators administer the system while the board of education serves as policymaker?
16. Do you believe in service training for board members? Are you willing to participate in such meetings?
17. How much do you think a school board member earns?
18. Is there anyone in the school system you could not support or with whom you could not work?