

Rachel Henderson – Supplemental Questions

1. Please share some things that you consider the school district does well.

The district is making progress with closing the achievement gap, stabilizing the graduation rate, and maintaining the grounds and facilities.

I also think that the district is headed in the right direction around: differentiated teacher professional development, data chats about test scores, and targeting specific student needs (special education/ gifted and talented)

2. How is the district doing in promoting community engagement? What could be done differently?

The district has maintained a media presence in the Brown Deer Magazine publication.

Perhaps the school district could work to hold periodic community listening sessions, continue to advertise volunteer opportunities, and host additional community engagement events. Students could also work to develop service-learning projects that could help connect them to the community in new ways.

3. How is the district doing in promoting parent involvement? What could be done differently?

The district has an active PTO, volunteer opportunities for parents, has hosted events like the Fun Fair, and the lunch and learn events. Perhaps the district could host events to strengthen the school- home connection. Events could be held to help parents support their children like: a math night, technology information sessions, or learn about literacy, etc.

4. The district has been operating with a historically low fund balance the last several years. How important is it to you to restore the fund balance to generally acceptable levels?

It would make fiscal sense to increase the fund balance since it is best practice. We want to be in line with accountant recommendations and in a place that would make us attractive to lenders.

5. Do you see opportunities to cooperate and share services with the village?

Cooperation between the school district and village would benefit the larger community. I am confident that there are some services that could be shared. Collaborative conversations between the school district and village could help uncover some of these.

6. Would you support starting a breakfast program and why?

While I think that a breakfast program could benefit some students that attend district schools, I would be interested in learning how many parents and community stakeholders would be in favor of such programming. I would also like to secure some statistical data around how many students don't have access to breakfast at home. Additionally, it would be helpful to know more about the total cost (dollars, time, staff needed, etc.)

7. It takes a fair amount of resources to research fraudulent residency issues, what would you recommend the administration do about it?

I would recommend that administration establish more checks to safe guard against fraudulence. Perhaps a closer look could be taken around the student enrollment process to try to prevent the use of fraudulent residency documents.

8. There has been discussion about shifting the financial responsibility of the police liaison officer and police presence at school events onto the district. What are your thoughts on this?

This discussion could lead to opportunities for the village and district to cooperate and share or trade services.

9. What are your thoughts on extending the school calendar?

I would need clarification around what is meant by "extending the calendar".

10. What are your thoughts on implementing a one-to-one technology initiative in the district, where all students have access to or receive a laptop or tablet device?

Implementing a one-to-one technology initiative could be a game changer for the district's students. Access to same technology at home and school could positively impact student achievement. When considering implementation of an initiative like this; cost sharing, student/parent user agreements, and the life of the technology should be closely evaluated.

11. What is your position regarding Open Enrollment? Should it be increased, decreased, or remain the same – and do you support a sibling guarantee (any sibling of an existing participating student is guaranteed a spot).....any why?

I think Open Enrollment should continue at its current level. I would be hesitant to support a sibling guarantee. Instead, I would prefer that open enrollment being subject to periodic reviews.

12. What are the most appropriate ways to measure and reward the performance of our

teachers?

- **Student progress and achievement should be one of the primary measures of teacher performance.**
- **Student achievement could be based on pre and post assessments or a benchmark that would allow student progress to be tracked.**
- **If teachers are effective the majority of their students will show progress.**
- **Student progress should not be solely based on test scores.**
- **There should be some way to account for outside factors that can negatively impact student achievement.**
- **Teachers should also be rewarded for specialized skill sets.**

13. The Middle/High school recently received recognition as a “School of Character.” How can we draw more attention to all of the good things that are happening within our schools?

- **We could share these through various media outlets: the Brown Deer magazine, district website, posters, etc.**
- **We could get signage to advertise our recognition**
- **We should also ask students to talk about the impact our character education programming has had on their success**

14. Discipline issues have been common with our schools, and these issues affect student performance. What are your plans to address this issue and help increase performance in both areas?

- **Continue our character education programming**
- **Build on our Positive Behavior Intervention Systems (PBIS)**
- **Identify the students with discipline issues to offer additional levels of support (mentoring, coaching, check-in/check-out, etc.)**
- **Determine when discipline issues can no longer be tolerated by the school district**

15. What role does/or can the School Board and District play in educating our young adult students on upcoming elections, and getting them registered and ready to vote?

- **We could host a get out the vote event**
- **Have students create projects about the election process**
- **Hold candidate forums**
- **Educate students about the election process through social studies and government classes.**