

Delta School Trustee Candidate Responses

Name: Jim McMurtry

1. Why do you want to be a school trustee? What do you understand the role of a trustee to be?

I was a teacher for many decades as well as a principal and college instructor of EAs. I am also the grandfather of seven, so my investment in education is heavy. I believe there needs to be an overhaul of the system, as I allude to below.

2. Delta staff are committed to including all children and families. How will you support Delta staff in creating inclusive school communities?

Inclusive is a word that now means many things, including exclusion. I support genuine inclusion and equal treatment of all viewpoints and individual stakeholders.

3. Delta staff are learning about decolonization and reconciliation. How will you support Delta staff in our supportive role?

I will oppose them to the best of my ability. A school is not a laboratory for political indoctrination, historical revisionism, or irrational and disingenuous and elite-imposed concepts like decolonization and reconciliation. I am an educator not a proselytizer.

4. Due to underfunding in the system, violence has become more prevalent. How will you commit to providing a safe and healthy working and learning environment for students and staff?

By ensuring that the consequences are hard and real for perpetrators, and that teachers are supported and not blamed for bad student behaviour.

5. How would you propose to alleviate the current EA staffing shortage and improve recruitment and retention?

I think this should be a priority. The total salary package of the superintendent in Surrey is close to \$600,000. There is money but it's not prioritized sensibly.

6. Given that funding is limited, what are your budget priorities for the Delta School District?

Whatever is in the best interests of students

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- 7. Currently, in Delta, decisions are made by trustees prior to the public Board meeting. Do you feel an obligation to make your decision-making process more transparent to the public and what steps will you take to ensure this?**

Absolutely, and I hope the Delta teachers do as well, for there has been a change in education that comes not from parents but the high priests of the woke cult that has captured western schools.