



2017 LUCAS COUNTY VOTERS' GUIDE

Washington Local School District Board of Education

Term of Office: 4 years

To be elected: 3

- Q1. *In the position you seek, what do you consider are the most important issues to be addressed, and what would you do about them?*
- Q2. *What do you bring to the position that another candidate cannot?*

Irshad Bannister

Education: Bachelor's Degree & Master's of Business Administration

Current Occupation: Financial Services

Website: www.bannister4wls.com

Qualifications: 10 years experience as a business owner with a financial background. Experience managing millions of dollars and working with budgets.

Questions:

1) The most important issue within the district is the morale and confidence, both in the district and within the community. I think my candidacy brings a calming tone and strong confidence that we can get this district back on the right track.

2) I can't and will not speak on other candidates qualifications. My campaign as always been about me and what I bring to the table. I think my business background will be a great asset within the board. Washington Local has many tough decisions ahead of them, including building renovations or brand new facilities, annual budget shortfalls, contract negotiations, etc. Someone who has experience in all of these areas in the private sector, like I do, would be an asset to the board of education.

Patricia Pedro Carmean

Education; Bachelor and Masters of Education

Current Occupations: Retired

Facebook.com: [Carmean for WLS](#)

Qualifications: I have been a member of the school board for 4 years. My training and experience is in education. I retired as a Reading Teacher. I understand the process to help all children learn. I am knowledgeable of Best Practice, Curriculum and the current Assessments of our students.

Questions:

1) The most important "issues" for my students is a quality education. Providing the best educational research based lessons. Safety is equally important for my students.

I am able to talk with my Superintendent and Curriculum Director about improving the learning environment. I am also able to attend Professional Development with staff and stay informed of programs to help kids.

2) To this position, I bring my love for children and teaching. I taught Junior High students in the beginning of my career and the last 12 years I taught Reading. I have the experience of teaching in Washington Local and I understand the importance of all staff members, not just teachers helping our kids to learn. Teaching is not just about lesson plans and grades but accepting every child and helping them emotionally as well as academically.

Melanie M. Garcia

Who Is Melanie Garcia you ask?

I am a mom first and foremost with a mother's heart!! I am not a politician, nor am I well versed on every issue at hand facing Washington Local Schools. The one thing I will do to serve my fellow constituents is research in order to make the best decisions.

I will not pretend to be someone I am not, and I am not one who makes excuses.

I am a very confident and strong person. I come with broad shoulders, a full heart, thick skin and an omnipresent backbone.

My decision to enter this race was inspired by the personal agendas of those currently making choices for the future of this district and its children.

My strengths are communication: I listen and I am not afraid to address difficult topics. I volunteer. I advocate. I believe all voices and needs should be heard and represented. A board should match the community in which it serves. I am a mother of two special needs children, who's futures have been made greater because of the loving staff at WLS.

We may not agree on everything, but I promise to always be respectful and understanding.

My focus is our children, the staff, and this community.

My pledge is to be a voice for all. To advocate and properly represent the greatness of our beloved Washington Local District, in hopes of bringing integrity back to this board.

Patrick C. Hickey

Education: Bachelors Degree in English Siena Heights University, Masters in Educational Administration and Education Specialist degree from the University of Toledo.

Current Occupation: Owner and CEO of Mustardseed Cycling, owner of 6 Cyclebar locations, CEO of Jeanne Hickey Memorial Fund, Educational consultant and motivational speaker. Retired Superintendent of Washington Local Schools.

Website: www.facebook.com/patrick.hickey.77770

Qualifications: 30 years of successful teaching and educational experience including teacher of English, coach, public school Principal, private school principal, and Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent experience. Years of philanthropy including fund that has donated a million dollars to inner city kids in Toledo and Chicago and supporting kids in Honduras and Russia.

Questions:

- 1) The most important issues and what I will accomplish in the first 100 days if elected:
 1. A state audit before any levy request
 2. Community input on 50 measurable and achievable goals for the Superintendent and administration to be achieved in 1000 days.
 3. Immediate 80% reduction in attorney fees and bringing all legal work to local attorneys.
 4. Immediate return of Challenge Day, Victory Day, Panther Prowl, Washington DC trip, KIA
 5. A student representative and a representative from TAWLS, OAPSE, and SAWLS at the board table with access to the agenda.
 6. Quarterly communication to the public through School Life, Across the Board, Awards issue, Calendar, and Annual Report.
 7. A media policy where no comment is not acceptable
 8. Lower class sizes
 9. At least 4 public partnerships per year to ease burden on taxpayers.
 10. An end to buy out of contracts
 11. Efficient public records release policy that honors transparency and honesty.
 12. Study the feasibility of a new Junior High to replace aging structures and using state money to accomplish that goal.
 13. Demand state accountability on money owed WLS through the capping process.
 14. Public use of tennis courts, track, and fitness center at Whitmer High School.
- 2) I bring more educational experience to the position than all other candidates combined and I am the father of a current student and 3 Whitmer graduates.

Mark R. K. Hughes

Education: Master's in Science of Nursing/master's in Health Administration

Current occupation: Clinical Nursing Director

Qualifications: 15 years of leadership/administration. Parent. Active volunteer in WLS.

Website: www.markhugheswlsstrong.com

Questions:

- 1) Restoring confidence in the WLS Bard. State funding. Test scores. Future construction.
- 2) Leadership, integrity, and a commitment to children's education.

Thomas Ilstrup

No Response Received

Eric Kiser

No Response Received

Brad C. McDonald

No Response Received

Cindy L. Perry

Education: Whitmer High School class of '77

Current Occupation: - Retiree with 31 years of service to WLS

- Sylvania Schools substitute classified employee

Qualifications: - Ohio State School Board Seminars

- Media Training

- Political Training

- Deputy Zone lead with AFL-CIO working to pass previous levy's throughout NWO

- Dedication and loyalty to Washington Local community with the best interest of our students, staff, and community in mind.

Questions:

1) One of the biggest issues that I would like to address is additional classes to the CTC program. Programs that lean more towards offering skilled trades experience and exposure to the students who may not see college as their first option when graduating high school. We need to have a diverse number of options for the students who would prefer to hit the work force head on instead of continuing on to college. Introductions and knowledge of the journeyman programs and apprenticeship programs will be key for these students while also offering them a jump start into a career that could fuel their future in a skilled trade.

2) With living in the district for 52 years, working in the district for 31 years, and still having grandchildren attending the districts schools I have insight about the inside workings of the district as well as the outside. I am loyal to this community and what it has always stood for. I have pride in my upbringing and education that this community and district has provided for me and my family. I am always transparent when approached with issues or concerns and honest with all involved. The core values of this district are strong character traits that I stand true to in my daily life.