

Boulder Weekly Questionnaire

Name: Debbie Lammers

Age: 57

Occupation: homemaker; community leader and school and district committee volunteer

Town of residence: Niwot

Incumbent? No; first-time candidate for elected office.

Experience? Previous professional experience in the legal field before moving to Colorado from San Francisco in 1997.

Why are you running? My willingness to step forward now as a board candidate is as the result of my experience as a very active volunteer in our schools. These activities have provided me the opportunity to talk to hundreds of residents all over our district. I take from those many conversations a unique perspective on what folks expect. I'd like to contribute that experience and knowledge to the school board's decision-making process.

What are the key issues and where do you stand? Our school district is facing the challenge of higher student performance expectations - along with critical funding concerns. Opportunities in curriculum options will be key to student achievement, however, communication and accountability concerning these issues is vital. Regarding Education Association matters, I would encourage the mediator process to promote consensus. The District and the Association should "move forward" and provide complete information during this process. Teachers, as well as other employee groups, are entitled to compensation increases which can be sustained over time while reflecting residents expectations.

What are your qualifications? Twelve years of classroom, school, community, and district-wide volunteer service and leadership: St. Vrain District's Ballot Campaign Committees: 2002, 2005, 2006, and Campaign Manager 2008; St. Vrain District's Community Bond Review Committee 2002-2009, Chairman 2004-2009; Niwot High School Education Foundation Board of Directors - 2005-present, President 2009-2010; previously: Waterford Park Homeowners Association Board; Niwot High School Boosters Board, Niwot Elementary School PTAC Board, and Sunset Middle School PTO Board.

What do you bring to the race? I have a good knowledge of the district's working structure and its ongoing efforts to improve academic and financial accountability. I have worked with community advisory groups providing leadership in public oversight of tax dollars and have knowledge and experience in program, budget and project accountability. This will ensure that I "can hit the ground running" if I am elected.

Why do you want to serve? I would like to continue as a volunteer at the district level as a Board member and contribute my experience and personal perspective to its efforts on behalf of the district's schools and students.