

THE PACEMAKER

Only a Heartbeat Away From Change

Knox County Political Action committee for Education (KC-PACE) is a voluntary, non-profit, unincorporated organization of individual educators and not affiliated with any political party. The members of the council are: Sherry J. Morgan – Chair, Kim Waller – Vice-Chair, and Karen Peterman – Treasurer. Each school board district is represented by the following KCEA members who were elected: Amy Arnold, Bill Bell, Mary Brockett, Mark Casteel, Tanya Thomas Coats, Catherine Gettys, Evelyn Gill, Jessica Holman, Trish Russell, and Heather Wallace. Interviews were held with School Board, County Commission and County Mayor candidates.

The questions for school board candidates were:

1. What is your opinion of Knox County Schools, and what is the basis of your opinion?
2. How important is it to you to attract and keep highly qualified teachers in Knox County? How can Knox County Schools recruit and retain highly qualified teachers?
3. What is your role as a school board member?
4. What is your main priority with the school budget?
5. “Race to the Top” is a federal grant that Tennessee has applied for to get money. Where do you think the “Race to the Top” money should be used best if you had input?
6. What are the 3 biggest challenges facing Knox County Schools? Why are you running for school board?
7. What do you believe is the most appropriate relationship between a school board member and: 1) superintendent, 2) County Commission, 3) KCEA and 4) administrators?

The questions for County Commission candidates were:

1. What is your perception of the educators and public schools in Knox County, and what is the basis of your opinion?
2. How important is it to you to attract and keep highly qualified teachers in Knox County? Would you be willing to raise sales taxes to increase salaries and benefits of Knox County’s public school educators?
3. What should the appropriate role and relationship be between the County Commission, School Board and the Director of Schools? What steps are you willing to take to maintain a cooperative relationship between the School Board and the County Commission?
4. Should the County Commission have more input in the school budget? How would you involve KCEA in the process?
5. “Race to the Top” is a federal grant Tennessee has applied for to get money. Where do you think the “Race to the Top” money should be used best if you had input?

The questions for county mayor were:

1. What are your priorities as county mayor?
2. What are your experiences with Knox County Schools?
3. How do you propose to generate new revenues for Knox County?
4. How can Knox County Schools recruit and retain highly qualified teachers?
5. Describe your relationship with the school board and County Commission.
6. What efforts would you adopt to insure a positive working relationship with each?

The following candidates were interviewed.

<i>School Board</i>	<i>District</i>
Charlotte Dorsey, Matthew Jones, Kim Sepesi & Bill Warwick	7
Mike McMillan & Roy Mullins	8
Robert Bratton, Max Houser, Tammy Sommers & Pam Trainor	9

<i>County Commission</i>	<i>District</i>
Jeff Ownby & Finbarr Saunders	4
Michelle Carringer	7
Duane Bias & Dave Wright	8
Mike Brown	9
Bud Armstrong & Ed Shouse	At Large Seat

County Mayor:

Tim Burchett, Lewis Cosby, Tim Hutchinson, Ezra Maize and Michael McBath

The following candidates are recommended for election and are considered education friendly candidates:

School Board District 7: **Bill Warwick**

School Board District 8: **Roy Mullins**

School Board District 9: **Robert Bratton**

County Commission District 4: **Finbarr Saunders** (Democrat)

County Commission District 7: **Michelle Carringer** (Republican)

County Commission District 8: **Duane Bias** (Republican)

County Commission District 9: **Mike Brown** (Republican)

County Commission at Large Seat: **Ed Shouse** (Republican)

County Mayor: **Tim Burchett** (Republican)

Early voting starts April 14. Please vote and encourage your family and friends to vote for these candidates. WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Voting is a privilege. Voting is your choice.

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Editors: Sherry J. Morgan & Jim Petrie

County Commission

Jeff Ownby

Finbarr Saunders

Duane Bias

Dave Wright

Ed Shouse

District

4

4

8

8

At Large Seat

School Board

District

Charlotte Dorsey	7
Matthew Jones	7
Kim Sepesi	7
Bill Warwick	7
Mike McMillan	8
Roy Mullins	8
Robert Bratton	9
Max Houser	9
Tammy Sommers	9
Pam Trainor	9