

Candidate 500 Word Statement

I love the education system! I believe that it is through teachers that we can change the world because I believe that teachers have the power to change lives! Harry K. Wong put it best when he said, "You are making a difference in the lives of students and in the world!"

After graduating from Idaho State University with a Secondary Mathematics Education degree, I moved to Mesa, Arizona for my first job. I chose to teach at a school that focuses on at-risk youth because its vision of education matches mine. I taught for a number of years at this school with some of the most amazing people I have ever met and taught some of the most amazing students. I learned how important it is to focus on each individual student. I learned how important it is to broaden teaching styles to better reach all students and how important it is to not let even one student slip through the cracks. I believe that education should be fair and equal to all students and that this is accomplished in the classroom as well as at a district level. I learned the importance of a principal and his or her role in setting the educational tone for the entire school. Teaching there was one of the most rewarding times in my life and taught me so many valuable lessons about education and life.

As a teacher, I learned that the education system is only as good as those who are involved. I learned how important the role of a parent is, and I promised to never stop being involved inside and outside the classroom. After having children, I decided to step out of the classroom to be at home with them. I am a mother of five (four boys and one girl), and their education is one of my top priorities. Now that my children are students in Thatcher, I have learned just how important teachers and principals are in their lives. I am so grateful for those teachers that my children have had that have shaped their lives for the better. Children spend 6-8 hours a day at school and it is important to know that when we send our children to school each morning, that we are sending them to an environment where they will not only learn facts but also the ability to apply those facts. I want our children's time outside the home to be as valuable as the time inside the home.

I decided to run for school board because I believe that our district needs the voice of a mother. I meet with my children's teachers regularly, I am involved in helping in the classrooms, I volunteer at the schools, and I hear what children are saying about their educational experiences. I believe that my years in the classroom and being a mother give me the unique experience needed to see both ends of education spectrum. I am personally invested in making the education here in Thatcher the best for not only my children, but all children. I want to add to the good of Thatcher schools. I love education!