

I am a retired Kennewick School Teacher, but I am still very involved in the district through volunteering, working on a district curriculum committee and attending school board meetings. I am endorsing Robert Franklin for Kennewick School Board Position #1. He is a dedicated professor of History at WSU and a published Hanford Site historian. He has a vested interest in the quality of Kennewick Schools because he has a child in a Kennewick school .

One of the main reasons I am endorsing Robert is that he has a passion for teaching and understands the role of a teacher and the role of a student in the educational process. This knowledge is much needed to openly communicate with school board members and community members about the needs of students, as well as the needs of teachers. He respects teachers, values teachers and will advocate for teachers.

Being able to communicate effectively is a large part of being an effective school board member. Because of his work as an educator, and local historian, Robert knows how to communicate with many different kinds of people who may have many different opinions. Robert communicates in a non-confrontational way and knows how to compromise when needed. Roberts says, "Considering different perspectives is the best way to make good decisions". However, he does not believe politics or culture wars have any place in school board discussions or decisions. He will lead by values, not by politics.

According to Robert, ALL students in Kennewick School District deserve to be respected and valued. He believes every student deserves a place to learn where they feel safe and accepted. This could be in a large school like ,Southridge High School or a small school like ,Phoenix High School He also knows counselors are necessary to help students who are dealing with situations where they don't feel accepted or where mental illness is present. He will advocate for the return of mental health counselors for Kennewick students.

Please vote for Robert Franklin for School Board Position #1. His knowledge of how schools work, his strong communication skills and his commitment of ALL students make him the best candidate.

Gayle Hane

Retired Kennewick School Teacher

Kennewick Middle School Teacher of the Year 1992

Crystal Apple Award 2011