

Manjula V. Sriram

Website: <http://manjulafordistrict15.org>

Office sought: Palatine Twp. Elementary D15

Age: 37

Family: Married, 2 Boys in District 15.

Occupation: Program Director in Information Services. We develop and host customer care, conferencing and communication solutions for service providers and enterprises.

Education: Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering , Computer Science & Business, UW-Milwaukee, 1996

Civic involvement: Candidate did not respond.

Elected offices held: Candidate did not respond.

Have you ever been arrested for or convicted of a crime? If yes, please explain: No

Number 1 campaign issue

Restore the voters' trust in the school board.

The recent bond referendum indicates the voters need to re-establish faith in the school board's ability to make decisions in the best interest of the children, families and other residents of the community. My goal is to learn what is best for the students and the voters and find solid ground in the middle. I am sure such policies can be found and implemented. We are a service body. Each of us contributes to our town's well-being, representing a community with a diversity of concerns.

Number 2 campaign issue

We the voters need to see that the Board represents fiscal responsibility and accountability by reviewing how and why they are spending our money. We have had to tighten our belts and prioritize our personal spending; we want to see the District doing that too. That means examining all expenses and contracts; even those of the teachers union. There is a saying, what you have to do tomorrow, do today; what you are to do today, do it now. Now is the time to examine our spending and make sure we are strengthening our schools for tomorrow.

Number 3 campaign issue

Candidate did not respond.

Would you support reductions in staff, specifically classroom teachers, in order to reduce projected deficit spending? If not, what specific budget cuts do you propose?

Staff reductions are not always the solution for deficit reduction. The larger class sizes will only make it a difficult learning environment for the children. Reducing one or two aides or administrators will NOT balance the deficit that exists currently. The changes need to be made by examining the whole; cutting unnecessary expenditures, reviewing contracts for opportunities. We must work as a group to balance this deficit and improve our position for the future.

How would you prioritize capital projects? Is the board's direction to budget \$2 million annually on capital projects enough? And would you tap into reserves to fund those projects?

In the past it has seemed as though Capital projects were prioritized based on accomplishing pet projects or quieting the loudest or angriest parties. There should be a formal, impersonal plan for large expenditures. Capital projects can be divided into the Magic Quadrant as described by Stephen Covey (First Things First: 1994).

1. Urgent and Important
2. Not Urgent but Important
3. Urgent but Not Important

4. Not Urgent and Not Important

As we prioritize in this way, categories 3 and 4 may never be worked on. Our focus should be on items that are Not Urgent but Important so we have fewer items that move up to Urgent and Important. If we are always working on priority 2 level issues, there will be few if any items that move up to Priority 1. It is my hope that this approach will make our \$2 million annual budget sufficient.

Any of the priority 2 items will be reviewed frequently to identify when they have a potential to become priority 1. If we have this system in place we can better plan all the capital improvements that are needed. Additionally, it will not be necessary to tap into the reserve funds. It should be the board's focus to only use the money coming in and save it for future Priority 1 needs.

How do you attempt to create equity in District 15, a large elementary district with diverse demographics? What further steps can the schools that have struggled with No Child Left Behind standards take?

In my personal opinion ""No Child Left Behind Standard"" is not a very positive standard. One should be looking at the personal development of a child, and a school as a whole. Progress is very individual, for a child who got a 60% in a prior year; the score of 70% is Excellence, while in a child whose growth was from 90 to 92% may not be a significant improvement. In addition, ensuring that all schools have similar tools, out of grade level classes, individual in school tutoring and special attention for kids who need help is important. Schools cannot succeed without good tools. Last, striving to establish strong working relationship with the parents is critical. Parents have the greatest influence on a student's life. Working with them, instead of ignoring the parents, can only make the District's job easier. For those students who might not have parental support, after school programs like those in Rolling Meadows are opportunities for community service, perhaps by older students or seniors. We need to use the resources we have in a more effective way. It is not all about grades or scores, but having and establishing solid fundamentals that will remain with a child for use in later years is more important.

What impact do you think the Navigate15 process will have on Dist. 15, and what can be done to ensure the community is engaged in the process? How should the board incorporate community input into future initiatives?

If implemented properly, Navigate 15 could be a remarkable program with the potential to really continue to improve our educational system to develop the highest caliber of students. Navigate 15 is not yet known by the majority of the community members and the ideas have not been put into action. Navigate 15 needs proper advertising, so it is a known initiative by the community members. The board really needs to understand what is coming out of these meetings, prioritize the input received from the community, and use their ideas as they come in - Don't Wait! As changes are being made, incorporate changes into the entire education system. This should be an ongoing process where community feedback is listened to and incorporated; then shared outside of the district so that the community knows that we are listening and acting.

Would you support another tax increase referendum? Why or why not?

As everything stands today, I would NOT support another tax increase referendum. A large majority of our district expenses are salary/benefit based. When we look at America as a whole, salaries and benefits have been frozen or even reduced in the past several years, while our district has continued to dig deeper into debt, based on old ideas and expectations. When the average family has two working parents, with rising costs and frozen salaries, how can we dare ask for more tax money for expenses that can be controlled? Of course, ultimately I will listen to the voters - and would encourage open town hall type meetings so that their opinions can be heard and acted on.

Scott Herr

Website: <http://www.ScottHerr.org>

Office sought: Palatine Twp. Elementary D15

Age: 51

Family: My wife Yvonne and I have two children who attended District 15 schools from kindergarten through 8th grade and currently attend Palatine High School. Jenna is a senior and Becky is a sophomore.

Occupation: IT consultant specializing in contract consulting work through the firm I own - Chicagoland Systems.

Education: - Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1982

- MBA, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1991

Civic involvement: I have been involved for years in communicating with the District 15 community through District 15 Parents Involved in Education (D15PIE, www.d15pie.org), which I founded in 2005. A primary mission of D15PIE has been to research, analyze and explain subjects such as No Child Left Behind AYP results, School Report Cards and district budgeting/financial issues.

Elected offices held: Candidate did not respond.

Have you ever been arrested for or convicted of a crime? If yes, please explain: No

Q&A

Number 1 campaign issue

One key issue is improving education results for all District 15 students. Although the District and its teachers overall provide a very good education, like any organization significant improvements can be made. For example, approximately 20-25% of students required summer refresher courses before entering Palatine and Fremd High Schools last fall based on the results of EXPLORE tests taken in 8th grade.

While District 15 shouldn't "teach to the test," these results show we can do better in educating children in District 15. The District also needs balanced objectives that focus on improving results for all children, not only those who are on the border between reaching/missing a target test score.

The current Board has not provided sufficiently challenging and specific education goals for District 15. I've scheduled a series of meetings with community members and the District 15 Administration to get their input on Board-level goals for District 15. The schedule for public meetings with community members is posted on my campaign website at www.ScottHerr.org.

Number 2 campaign issue

Another key issue is fiscal responsibility, which was illustrated by the bond referendum that was defeated 2 to 1 by voters last November. The current District 15 Board passed a resolution in March 2010 to issue \$27 million in bonds. I became involved shortly afterwards and helped collect and defend the 7500 petition signatures that put this question on the ballot in November. I then joined the leadership team of Citizens for Accountability in D15, which evaluated the bond proposal and recommended voters reject the referendum.

If \$27 million in bonds had been issued, the District 15 June 2010 fund balance would have been \$82 million, which was double the Board-approved target fund balance of \$41 million.

For most residents, over 60% of their property taxes can be attributed to District 15 and District 211. School boards recommending additional debt or an increase in taxes have an obligation to make a clear case to the community. But the current Board never explained why they wanted to raise so much money in excess of their own target fund balance.

Just like all residents in the district, District 15 must live within its means.

Number 3 campaign issue

Candidate did not respond.

Would you support reductions in staff, specifically classroom teachers, in order to reduce projected deficit spending? If not, what specific budget cuts do you propose?

The current Board unfortunately approved contracts that increased costs beyond the District's expected revenues. According to District 15's January 12th forecast, the deficit is expected to grow from 3% of revenues this year to 8% of revenues in the 2015-16 school year. The Board asked the District 15 Administration to come to the February 9th Board meeting with a specific list of possible budget cuts with a focus on avoiding impact to student programs and current instruction. These cuts would be my first choice in balancing the budget.

If this effort to balance the budget is unsuccessful, my recommendation would be for the Board to direct the District 15 Administration to form a team to look at all spending with input from teachers, staff and the community to identify any spending that doesn't add value to the core mission, which is teachers educating students.

It should be noted the vast majority of District 15 spending is for salaries and benefits, as one Board member pointed out at the January Board meeting. Unless we are successful in finding other savings, this would mean the next choice would be reducing the increases that exceed inflation. Any further reductions would only be taken after exhausting every other option.

How would you prioritize capital projects? Is the board's direction to budget \$2 million annually on capital projects enough? And would you tap into reserves to fund those projects?

Most large capital projects can be planned years in advance. My approach would be to ask for an annual capital projects plan that specifically identifies as many projects in advance over a 3-5 year horizon. The number one priority is projects that affect the health and safety of our schools.

The Board asked the District 15 Administration to bring a specific capital project list to the February 9 Board meeting. Although \$2 million annually may be enough on an ongoing basis, the current Board has been postponing some projects resulting in a backlog of projects. Until the administration presents its list on February 9th it is too soon to know whether \$2 million will be enough for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

A key question to determine whether each project should be done now would be: Would postponing a project significantly increase the total cost of the project or are there health and safety issues involved? If yes, then I would support using part of the \$14.5 million excess fund balance to do those projects now.

How do you attempt to create equity in District 15, a large elementary district with diverse demographics? What further steps can the schools that have struggled with No Child Left Behind standards take?

The word "equity" can mean different things to different people and I encourage people to share their views on this subject with me. As the question notes, District 15 is a very diverse district. This diversity can be seen in some of the largest population subgroups: 29% Low-Income, 28% Hispanic, 20% Limited-English-Proficient, 14% Asian/Pacific Islander, and 11% with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

All children are individuals and each has his or her own way they learn best and their own unique needs. Fortunately, current Illinois and federal laws provide additional funding for many of the children who require greater resources to reach their potential. For me the highest priority is providing all children in the district the opportunity to learn and succeed.

I've started meeting with the District 15 Administration to get a full understanding of current District 15 policies focused on meeting the wide variety of needs of District 15's diverse population. My subsequent meetings with District 15 will focus on understanding the corrective action plans that NCLB law requires for schools that don't meet "Adequate Yearly Progress" (AYP) targets. For 2010 there were three District 15 schools that didn't reach AYP targets. A fourth school made AYP in 2010 but not in 2009.

One focus of these meetings will be on what Board-level policies and goals can be established that help schools meet NCLB standards while not forgetting about the large number of students not missing AYP targets. Following these meetings I'll post additional information on my campaign web site on this topic.

It should be noted there are significant flaws in the current No Child Left Behind law (NCLB). One flaw that Assistant Superintendent Mary Zarr noted at the January 18 Navigate15 meeting is NCLB annually escalates target levels, which

means the vast majority of schools nationwide eventually would not meet ""Adequate Yearly Progress."" The new Elementary and Secondary Education Act under development by Congress will hopefully address these flaws.

The bottom line is District 15 should strive to do the best it can for all kids to get what they need to grow and succeed.

What impact do you think the Navigate15 process will have on Dist. 15, and what can be done to ensure the community is engaged in the process? How should the board incorporate community input into future initiatives?

Navigate15 is a good start at engaging with the community and my hope is Navigate15 will improve relations with the community and that participants will continue to stay involved. To-date the only subject covered in Navigate15 meetings has been curriculum so it is too early to know the ultimate impact of Navigate15. One significant challenge of the Navigate15 leadership team will be to extrapolate the input from the 100-150 community members attending to accurately represent the opinions of the approximately 100,000 residents of District 15.

Simply put, Navigate15 is one of many ways of working together with the public. Another example is a Citizens Curriculum Advisory Council that District 15 is considering. And for specific issues my experience has been that District 15 is generally responsive to direct communications with teachers, principals and staff.

Regarding future initiatives, my view is any significant initiative should include townhall-style meetings with Board member participation in advance of decisions being made by the Board. This kind of community input can be highly effective in making sure the best decisions are being made.

Would you support another tax increase referendum? Why or why not?

No, I would not support another tax increase referendum. It is imperative the District 15 Board and administration resolve the imbalance between spending and revenues. District 15 had a June 2010 fund balance of \$55.5 million, which was \$14.5 million above the Board-approved target fund balance of \$41.0 million. District 15's budget for this year shows spending exceeding revenues by \$3.7 million.

By acting promptly to balance the budget, more of the extra \$14.5 million in the bank will be available to address the current backlog of capital projects instead of funding deficit spending.

Gerard Iannuzzelli

Website: Candidate did not respond.

Office sought: Palatine Twp. Elementary D15

Age: 43

Family: Married with three children

Occupation: Director of Technology

Education: Bachelors Degree in Computer Science, St Ambrose University, 1992.

Civic involvement: Lifetime Member of the Palatine Jaycees, Director in the Palatine Mens Civic Club, Member of the Sons of American Legion, Member of the Presidents Circle Northwest Community Hospital Foundation

Elected offices held: None

Have you ever been arrested for or convicted of a crime? If yes, please explain: No

Q&A

Number 1 campaign issue

The community needs to regain trust in the board. I want the community to know that I am on their side. Just like everyone else I work hard for my money, and I do not want my tax dollars to be spent on items that do not have any

bearing on the daily resources required to educate our children. Obviously, we are going to have taxes, but I want the community to feel comfortable knowing that my decisions are what is right for the whole not just the few.

Number 2 campaign issue

Safety for our children has always been a concern of mine. They are growing up in a world where their parents both need to work so they may not always be there to protect their children. I want to make sure that our schools are doing everything to educate our children on the downfalls of drugs and alcohol as well as the safety of walking to and from school. Making the schools safe and educating our children on these issues is the best way to combat the temptations of others.

Number 3 campaign issue

Candidate did not respond.

Would you support reductions in staff, specifically classroom teachers, in order to reduce projected deficit spending? If not, what specific budget cuts do you propose?

I do not think that reducing education staff helps anyone, in fact it hurts our children by increasing the class size. However our economy can not support the annual increases in salary that teachers are getting. We need to curb the increases and move to a merit type of wage increase. At my job, I reward employees by how well they perform, not how long they have been with the company. Doing this greatly increases productivity, and ultimately, we produce a better product. That same idea can be applied to the district employees.

How would you prioritize capital projects? Is the board's direction to budget \$2 million annually on capital projects enough? And would you tap into reserves to fund those projects?

I am sure there are many items that take priority, and in order to address this issue I would need to see all the capital projects on the plate to determine which ones would take priority. If we plan correctly, then we should not need to dip into reserve funds. However if the safety of our children is at stake, then I would do what is needed to make sure that those particular projects are addressed first.

How do you attempt to create equity in District 15, a large elementary district with diverse demographics? What further steps can the schools that have struggled with No Child Left Behind standards take?

Every child in our district should have the same opportunity to succeed. There are laws that are mandated that the schools should be following. However who is monitoring that and who is held accountable when it fails? Funds should be used where they are needed and not be used just because they are available. Our children need to be prepared for the future because it is only going to get tougher. Moving forward, I would like to see some sort of evaluation that would weed out the bad teachers and administrators, tenure or not, and open the door for proactive and innovative educators. We need to support the idea that we are all in this together, and the decisions we make affect the student as well as their teacher.

What impact do you think the Navigate15 process will have on Dist. 15, and what can be done to ensure the community is engaged in the process? How should the board incorporate community input into future initiatives?

I think Navigate 15 is a great start to partnering with the community. The citizens need to be informed of the programs that are put in place. To many times, we tend to focus on the negative feedback. However with Navigate 15 I believe that we will be able to keep moving forward in a positive direction and allow the community to take part in the progress. Navigate 15 opens the door for community input. Similar to how I manage my department at work, I allow my employees to voice their concern and ask for their input. I have found they work together to resolve the problem at hand. That is what Navigate 15 will do for the community.

Would you support another tax increase referendum? Why or why not?

I would not support a substantial tax increase unless we have educated the community on why the tax increase is needed. Taxes seem to have a way of creeping up and you are left with paying the tax and not really understanding why.

I am not saying I can stop the taxes from going up but at least I will try my best to educate the public as to why there is an increase. Show them where the money is going.

James G. Ekeberg

Website: Candidate did not respond.

Office sought: Palatine Twp. Elementary D15

Age: 62

Family: Married, 4 children

Occupation: Family Physician

Education: BS in biology, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL 1970

MD St. Louis University School of Medicine, 1974

Family Medicine Residency, Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago, IL

Civic involvement: Chair Family Medicine Dept. Northwest Comm. Hospital

Volunteer Health Resource High School Dist. 211

Volunteer Team Physician Palatine High School football team

Elder Presbyterian Church of Palatine

Former volunteer coach Palatine Park Dist. & Palatine North

Little League

Elected offices held: Board Of Education, Comm. Consolidated School Dist. 15, 2007

Have you ever been arrested for or convicted of a crime? If yes, please explain: No, unless you are talking about traffic tickets.

Q&A

Number 1 campaign issue

Our superintendant has introduced the phrase,""every child, every day, every school."" That, I believe, is the primary mission of the school board. We must provide the leadership, staff, curriculum and facilities of the best quality so all children we serve have the opportunity to achieve their potential.

Number 2 campaign issue

I believe the board has hired a very effective leader in Supt. Thompson. His challenge is to assemble the best administrative staff and recruit and keep the best teachers and support personnel. The board must demonstrate the ability to provide a stable, high functioning team to support Mr. Thompson in this most important goal.

Number 3 campaign issue

Candidate did not respond.

Would you support reductions in staff, specifically classroom teachers, in order to reduce projected deficit spending? If not, what specific budget cuts do you propose?

A goal Mr. Thompson voiced at the last board meeting is to make budget cuts that do not impact the classroom and I believe the board and I share that goal. I would look to the administration to provide the lead on those budget cuts.

How would you prioritize capital projects? Is the board's direction to budget \$2 million annually on capital projects enough? And would you tap into reserves to fund those projects?

We hired a new architect for the district. The architect and the administration are evaluating all of our facilities. I would look to their expertise to direct how our funds should best benefit the district.

How do you attempt to create equity in District 15, a large elementary district with diverse demographics? What further steps can the schools that have struggled with No Child Left Behind standards take?

This district was very close in meeting the rigorous demands of NCLB last year. I know that it is a very high priority for the Dept. of Instruction. They are working very hard to make sure every school and each group in every school has the best opportunity to succeed. We must continue to provide the best staff and needed resources.

What impact do you think the Navigate15 process will have on Dist. 15, and what can be done to ensure the community is engaged in the process? How should the board incorporate community input into future initiatives?

I believe this is a demonstration of the outstanding leadership skills of Mr. Thompson. He is providing the community an opportunity to give input to the Board of Education. This input will be used for planning for the future of the district.

Would you support another tax increase referendum? Why or why not?

I do not believe there is a need for a tax increase referendum. Under the leadership of Mr. Thompson and Mr. Adamczyk (Assistant Supt. for Business) we will balance our budget and plan for our future funding needs.

Gerald D. Chapman

Website: Candidate did not respond.

Office sought: Palatine Twp. Elementary D15

Age: 67

Family: Wife, Linda Two grown children, both successful graduates of D15 schools

Occupation: Educational consultant

Education: B.S., Mathematics Education, Northern Illinois University

M.A., Mathematics, Northwestern University

Ed.D., School Administration, Indiana University

Civic involvement: Palatine Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors, 1990-2001, 2003-present

Palatine Rural Fire Protection District, Trustee and

Treasurer, 2004-present

Bridge Youth and Family Services, Board Chairman, 2002-2005

Palatine Township Cemetery Committee, 1996-present

Village of Palatine, Citizen Corps, 2006-present

Palatine Rural Pension Board, Member and Treasurer, 2004-present

Elected offices held: Board of Education, Community Consolidated School District 15, 2007-present

Have you ever been arrested for or convicted of a crime? If yes, please explain: No

Q&A

Number 1 campaign issue

All District 15 students deserve to have the same opportunities for high quality education. So we must assure that every school has the same rigorous curriculum, highly qualified staff, as well as safe and healthy environments. I would support a comprehensive facilities study to assure healthy and equitable facilities for all students.

Number 2 campaign issue

The quality of education is directly related to the quality of staff. The District needs to hire and retain highly qualified administrators, teachers, and support staff and provide the necessary resources so that staff can work effectively.

Number 3 campaign issue

Candidate did not respond.

Would you support reductions in staff, specifically classroom teachers, in order to reduce projected deficit spending? If not, what specific budget cuts do you propose?

District 15's financial condition is sound in the short-term, with reasonable fund balances. However, in the long-term, if financial conditions do not improve, budget reductions will be necessary. Long-term finances are difficult to project with absolute accuracy because of the uncertainty of State aid. Maintaining class sizes should be a high priority, but whether that can be done will depend directly on future revenue.

How would you prioritize capital projects? Is the board's direction to budget \$2 million annually on capital projects enough? And would you tap into reserves to fund those projects?

The District's architect and maintenance staff are in the process of evaluating all of the District 15 facilities to identify short-term needs. I would rely on their expertise to assist in establishing priorities for capital improvements. Also, I would support a long-term facilities study if it would be cost-effective.

How do you attempt to create equity in District 15, a large elementary district with diverse demographics? What further steps can the schools that have struggled with No Child Left Behind standards take?

Equity among schools is a high priority, to assure that all District 15 students have access to the same high quality curriculum, skilled and dedicated staff, and healthy learning environments. As for No Child Left Behind, our schools continue to make good progress, and that can continue if highly qualified staff are recruited and retained and all schools are held accountable to provide rigorous curriculum. Additional resources have been and should continue to be provided as needed.

What impact do you think the Navigate15 process will have on Dist. 15, and what can be done to ensure the community is engaged in the process? How should the board incorporate community input into future initiatives?

Superintendent Scott Thompson has been outstanding in planning Navigate 15 and engaging the community on a variety of educational issues. The results of these meetings will be presented to the board of education in late spring, and that input will provide the board with insight from the community for future planning.

Would you support another tax increase referendum? Why or why not?

There is no need for a tax increase referendum. Instead, the District needs to continue to balance its budgets through sound long-term financial planning and responsible decision-making.

David W. Seiffert

Website: <http://Pending>

Office sought: Palatine Twp. Elementary D15

Age: 48

Family: I have been married 14 years to my wife Beth, we have two children Grace 10 and Luke 8. Have lived in Palatine for going on 13 years.

Occupation: I am Regional Sales Manager for Hudsonville Ice Cream Co. in Holland MI. Started with them in October of 2010. Prior to that I was employed by Unilever Foods for 24 years.

Education: Bachelor of Science from Western Illinois University in Business Management, Graduated in 1984

Civic involvement: -Currently VP of Fundraising of Jane Addams PTA

-Palatine Planning Commission

-Actively on Palatine Youth Baseball Board as Asst. Sponsorship Director

-Serving as Trustee of District 15 Educational Foundation since 2005. Chairperson 2008-2009

Elected offices held: Have not held Elected Office

Have you ever been arrested for or convicted of a crime? If yes, please explain: No

Q&A

Number 1 campaign issue

To make sure the Children of District 15 get the best, safest and most comprehensive education that we can give them. To look at issues openly and independently and give my best recommendations to our Superintendent and Administration.

Number 2 campaign issue

To insure the District runs with the best fiscal practices possible. Listen to recommendations from Administration and make the best decisions possible after listening to all the facts.

Number 3 campaign issue

Candidate did not respond.

Would you support reductions in staff, specifically classroom teachers, in order to reduce projected deficit spending? If not, what specific budget cuts do you propose?

I would try not to have staff reductions, we need to insure the children the best possible education and need staff to insure that. Would listen to the Administration and evaluate their recommendations and work with the entire board to try and resolve issues of spending.

How would you prioritize capital projects? Is the board's direction to budget \$2 million annually on capital projects enough? And would you tap into reserves to fund those projects?

We would have to listen to Administration and architects as to the most dire cases and not just do patch work to keep things in proper order, but finish complete project. On the \$2 million capital budget, I think we need to listen to Administration and may have to adjust budget up or down on their recommendations. No I don't think we should tap in to reserves. we need to insure we have a capital on hand and be prepared if there are slow payments from the state or any other delays. We need to have this in our hands and need to be able to react if needed.

How do you attempt to create equity in District 15, a large elementary district with diverse demographics? What further steps can the schools that have struggled with No Child Left Behind standards take?

I don't think we can create equity throughout the district, different children and different schools have needs and we need to be able to adjust to those circumstances. Listening to the Administration to give their recommendations to do things a fairly as possible would be the best course. If there are struggling schools on No Child Left Behind we should take the recommendations of the Administration and work together as a board to work towards those recommendations. The Administration is in the education business the board is not, need to listen carefully to the Administration.

What impact do you think the Navigate15 process will have on Dist. 15, and what can be done to ensure the community is engaged in the process? How should the board incorporate community input into future initiatives?

I think Navigate 15 will have a great impact on the District. Although we do need more participation by the community as it is their chance to get involved and have their say on what the District will look like for years to come. We have the chance to get in on conversations like what the class sizes should look like, what curriculum should start to change, how we financially care for District 15. There is no guarantee to get the community out for this, but I believe there needs to be assistance from PTA, Principals and Teachers to get this out to parents.

We have done many back pack mailers in the past, I think we need to start there right away to encourage the community to come out. Maybe some type of communication in conjunction with a Village endorsed mailing. This is a critical time in the direction of District 15, we have a top quality District right now and we should do everything possible to drive the community to these meetings. Maybe an acknowledgement on our Community Channel 6.

Would you support another tax increase referendum? Why or why not?

Right now I would not support an tax increase referendum. We need to find ways to look at the spending side of the ledger. Let's bring the spending side of things back in to grips and see what we can do. There may need to be some difficult decisions, but we need to communicate those to the constituents that are represented and get a feel from them.