



Candidate Questionnaire - School Board Member
August 2022 Primary Election

Your name: Dr. Arthur Boyer
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Your phone number: 239-330-0802
Your age: 52
Today's date: 5/23/2022

What year did you move to Southwest Florida, and where were you living previously?

I moved to Southwest Florida in 1991. I had lived in Port-au-Prince, Haiti before I came to Southwest Florida.

What is your educational background and work experience?

I received the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and the Degree of Master of Public Administration from Hodges University. I hold the Degree of Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership from Argosy University.

I am a business and education consultant. I handle multiple aspects of services, which include family education consulting, professional and higher education consulting, organizational leadership consulting, and personal life coaching. I am a motivational speaker, I have presented extensively on education, community development, engagement, and involvement. In 2015, I published *Managing Multiculturalism in the Classroom*, which is a phenomenological study that builds the case for acknowledging multiculturalism and the need for multicultural leadership in diverse institutions.

Describe your community and School District activities. How will those experiences benefit you as a School Board member?

I have been an educator for almost two decades. I have had the honor and privilege of contributing my skills and knowledge at multiple professional and academic institutions around Southwest Florida, which include the following: Bethune Education Center, Immokalee Technical College, Immokalee Foundation, Immokalee Guadalupe Center, Southwestern Vocational Training, and Hodges University. I have also led leadership roles at Southwestern Vocational Training and Premiere International College.

In 2018, I launched a free family-education consulting service in Collier County. I called it "Help a Child". On one hand, Help a Child is a program that promotes education, discipline, and motivation for students. On the other hand, it encourages parental engagement and involvement, and it empowers parents in developing effective exchanges with school officials to ensure the academic success of their children.

Those experiences have helped me become knowledgeable of the vision, the differences, the challenges, the assets, and the great wishes of our community, which will help me take well-informed actions and decisions to seek, defend, and protect the best interests of our current and future students while ensuring the greater good of Collier County.

Describe a recent initiative on which you showed community leadership.

From January 2020 to December 2021, during the pandemic, I organized a free virtual tutoring program to provide our elementary, middle, and high school students the academic and motivational supports needed to keep them engaged and ensure their success. A great team of current and retired educators and other professionals joined in. They facilitated the shift from regular to virtual learning adopted by Collier County School Board. We helped with homework, coursework, test preparations skills. All students succeeded.

What changes, if any, would you like to make to the CCPS Policies?

I believe that CCPS should consider a learner-driven education system. CCPS Policies should reflect the vision, the challenges, the assets, and the best interests of Collier County. I would support policies that stand for: parental engagement and involvement, commitment to special education, strong support for teachers, and community advocacy.

What changes, if any, would you like to make to the CCPS Budget?

I would support budget policies that ensure: an effective equitable education system across Collier County, strong official and community accountability.

What changes, if any, would you like to make to the CCPS Leadership?

I envision leadership practices that focus on:

- Setting compelling vision, goals, and expectations of the Board
- Sustainable support and retention of great school leaders and teachers
- A transforming approach that will align our schools to Collier County's best interests
- Developing an inclusive and collaborative learning environment

What actions, if any, should the School District take to address the need for affordable housing?

Our School District should become an advocate for land use, housing, and school policies. They have significant reciprocal effects. Collier County has an immediate need to coordinate efforts with housing development programs to ensure that our educators, students and their families are provided with housing, transportation, and other forms of economic mobility including housing voucher programs.

Please comment on the recent School Board votes to approve textbooks.

Publishers are given too much power in that process. They are in it for their best interests, which do not necessarily align with the greater good of our schools and community. Furthermore, I observed a lack of engagement and involvement of community members.

What are your views about the parental rights and charter school movements as they relate to the School District? How would they influence your actions and decisions as a School Board member?

Parental rights pave the way to parental engagement and involvement. Charter schools encourage parents' participation. As a School Board member, I would stand for that approach. It is my belief that School Board members need to encourage intense parents' participation in some oversight roles, schooling, and decision-making. School leaders do not replace parents.