



**Candidate Questionnaire - School Board Member  
August 2024 Primary Election**

**Tom Henning**  
Henning.tom@gmail.com  
Age **66**

Today's date:

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

**Collier Resident since 1973, originally from Michigan**

Where did you go to high school, and if you received any post-secondary education, what degree(s) and from where?

**Naples High, graduated Lely High. Graduate Certificate; Lorenzo Walker Vocational School in HVAC**

Please summarize your work experience, including employers and dates.

**1984-2002; self-employed**  
**2000-2016; Collier County Commissioner**  
**2016-2000; Greater Naples Fire and Rescue; Fire Commissioner;**  
**2016-2021; self employed**  
**2021- present; Retired**

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

**I have three Children that attend CCPS, past and present. We remember the extended mask mandate from the School Board. The effects are devastating! I remember my son having to wear a face mask to receive his diplomat at an outside ceremony! I have trashed homework that had Critical Race Theory and taught to my daughter why is important to understand that all American Citizens are equal, given by our founding fathers of this great Nation.**

**As a former County Commissioner, I have experience in reviewing large budgets, annual audits, and policies. After reviewing CCPS finances, I have noticed that the School District is missing large amount of reported revenue; it is simply not accounted for. The annual audit is not performed, as dictated by law. Instead,**

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*no later than June 10, 2024.*

**only a skeleton is provided, which neglects critical aspects of the accounting principles. Simply put: transparency is a must.**

Describe a recent initiative on which you showed community leadership.

**I helped Conservative Candidates get elected to the School Board and County Commission.**

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

**Most important thing that the Administration must understand is the roll of the School Board's decision-making authority. Example; the public announcement to close Lorenzo Walker High School (LWHS) by the Superintendent. LWHS was created and funded by the Board, the Board is the only one that can change the status of any facility.**

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

**The budget lacks transparency. Revenue sources are missing and budgeted positions are funded with no real intent to fill these positions. Without a true report of funding no real change can be accomplished.**

**My goal will be shifting funds to the greatest extent possible into the classroom, reduce excessive capital funds and send bloated funds back to the Taxpayers**

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

**Presently there are two separate attorney representatives, one office for the school board and one office for the superintendent and her administration.**

**I was initially supportive of this system. However, after watching how it works, I have seen it is not efficient.**

**I propose that the district attorney's office shall be under the board and assist the Staff as needed. This change will be a cost-savings measure that returns more money back to the taxpayer.**

**I don't see a need for any further changes to the Administration and trust cooperation between them will take place with the new Board.**

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

**The School Board should stay out of the affordable housing business, just pay Teachers the appropriate salaries.**

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

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**School Districts derives its power from the Legislators and the law is clear, Parents have the right in school choice. Charter schools are here to stay. We must work cooperatively to achieve the best education of our students**

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