

What strengths, abilities, education, or experiences uniquely qualify you to serve? Include any significant contributions to Pell City and/or the community at large.

My thirty-eight years of experiences of education, professions, and appointments have given me the abilities and strengths to serve as a board member for the Pell City School System. Listed below are experiences that uniquely give credence to my qualifications:

Education

2002 Jacksonville State University

Earned School Administration Certificate

1999 Jacksonville State University

Awarded Master of Science Degree – School Counselor

1987 Jacksonville State University

Awarded Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education

Professional Employment

2015 – Present Association Executive/CEO

St. Clair Association of REALTORS®

with masters-like national certification in association management

2005 - 2013 Principal (Retired June 30, 2013)

Coosa Valley Elementary School, Pell City, Alabama

2004 - 2005 Director of Counseling

Pell City School System, Pell City, Alabama

2004 - 2005 Lead High School Counselor

Pell City High School, Pell City, Alabama

2003 - 2005 Building Based Student Support Team (BBSST) System Supervisor

Pell City School System, Pell City, Alabama

1998 - 2004 Middle School Counselor

Duran Junior High School/Duran South

Pell City School System, Pell City, Alabama

1989 - 1998 5th Grade Teacher (8 years)/6th Grade Reading Teacher (1 year)

Walter M. Kennedy Elementary School

Duran Junior High School

Pell City School System, Pell City, Alabama

1988 - 1989 6th/7th Grade Science Teacher

Professional Presentations

- Guest speaker for Jacksonville State University's counselor program
- Professional development on BBSST for the Pell City School System
- Professional development on 504 with executive director of special populations for the Pell City School System
- Professional development on Lee v. Macon with executive director of special populations for the Pell City School System
- Teacher professional development on reading, writing, math, special education, 504, ELL, ADHD, team building, student engagement, curriculum development, and Educate Alabama.
- Leadership and Board of Director Instructor for Association BOD

Honors

- Advisory Council Member for the Program of Counselor Education, Jacksonville State University
- Christa McAuliffe Fellowship First Alternate 1999-2000 State of Alabama
- Grants – numerous awards for curriculum and outdoor classroom at Coosa Valley Elementary
- Grants – Association grants from the state and national associations

I have worked cooperatively in various leadership positions to meet school improvement plans, association core standards, and to meet yearly/long term strategic goals. One must do so as a team member in order to meet and satisfy requirements. I have and still engage in active listening, gather input from stakeholders, and have the ability to engage adults and students in a positive manner. I believe in approaches that include common sense and thinking outside the box. One may have to invent "the wheel" but know how to explore and utilize proven ideas and methods created by others. I wish to represent the Pell City School System in a positive and respectful manner while motivating staff and students through listening and engagement in small groups. I wish to model positive actions that would include non-interrupting "walkabouts" utilizing short classroom observations leaving short positive notes. I would continue to build a positive rapport with parents.

What goals should the Pell City Board of Education prioritize over the next 3-5 years? Include things you think Pell City Schools are doing well and should be supported, and things you would seek to improve.

The next three to five year system goals for the Pell City Board of Education should include continuing to increase academic growth for all students, facility improvements, and hiring/retaining highly skilled staff. It is simple to state goals; however, meeting the goals require in-depth planning without being averse to change for obstacles. For example, the many new subdivisions could increase student numbers. Could the Alabama Literacy Act increase class sizes? Do we have a plan to house and staff more classes due to an increase of our student population? Are we utilizing methods and best practices to serve all students as we prepare for unexpected occurrences in order to reach our goals.

There are many positives in our school system. The Pell City Board of Education has hardworking and caring teachers. This is a positive, but we must raise morale and assist the staff as they work to meet and exceed academic goals. The improvements that have been made and continue to be made to our facilities with the increased property taxes voted upon by the citizens is a positive. I would think FFA's facilities are next to be improved, and I am hoping the culinary class in the old high school cafeteria is still on track. Pell City's priority on quality public education and facilities should continue to be a beacon for new industries and business.

Our school system will always strive to improve. Pell City could continue increasing transparency to form a positive perception by the public and outsiders. We must be proactive in prevention rather than perception intervention. I wonder if all staff are utilizing best practices are at a high level? Is our personnel budget operating at the highest-level in both the Central Office and schools to meet the needs of all students? Do we have a high level of staff on emergency certificates, and do we have any teaching positions staffed by someone without a degree and certification? Are all teachers instructing with explicit and meaningful methods? Do we incorporate applied hands-on instruction for all academics and use cooperative learning methods to reach all students? We have been known for our college prep for students, however, are we increasing our career tech program for students who plan to join the workforce based on the new Career Tech diploma?

The Pell City Board of Education board members must have knowledge of the vast workings of the school system to carry out their fiduciary duty. Also, the new members will have the enormous duty of choosing a new superintendent. The method and process are very precise with rules and actions that must be followed. This appointment of the best candidate can mean a positive growth and advancement for Pell City Schools, students, and community. The management and governance of Pell City Schools today is imperative for present students, future students and community.

APPLICANT RESUMES ARE WELCOME BUT NOT REQUIRED

The Pell City Board of Education Steering Committee will review resumes submitted with a candidate's application packet. Please attach resumes as PDF documents when submitting this application.

ATTACH RESUME

SIGNATURE

My signature below indicates I have read School Boards & Superintendents Roles & Responsibilities and I understand and am willing to assume the responsibilities of Board Member on the Pell City Board of Education. All personal and professional information provided herein is accurate to the best of my ability. I hereby authorize the City of Pell City to conduct investigation into my background and experience as deemed necessary for the purposes of evaluating my qualification for the position I am applying for, including contacting my employer and listed references.

Electronic signature

Date

03/30/2025