



# NORMAN VOGT

Board Candidate — April 2, 2024 Ballot

My name is Norman Vogt, and I am running for the Ste. Genevieve R-II School Board. My wife and I have raised 5 children that attended and graduated from the Ste. Genevieve school district. Over the years the school has grown and improved and I hope to see these improvements continue. I will bring the leadership skills I utilized in business to the school board. I have over 45 years of business experience, most coming from owning and operating a business for forty years. I feel I will be invaluable to the further growth and improvement of our schools.

My family and I moved to Ste. Genevieve County in 1980 and shortly after my oldest entered the school district. I have helped coach several youth league teams, worked concessions, and attended many sporting events. Through each of my children's educational careers I watched the schools upgrade their facilities, yet keep their small-town values. With my children moving back to Ste. Genevieve and my grand-children now attending schools in the district, I am pleased to see this trend continue.

My campaign is driven by my desire to give the children and in turn the schools MORE. I hope to take my business skills onto the board and make concise, fiscally responsible, safe, and productive decisions for our schools and children. With your vote on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, you too will vote for more in '24.

1. *What motivates you to want to become a Board of Education member?*

After years of involvement with Ste Genevieve School and upon retirement I thought I could get more involved and see if I could help Ste Genevieve School District. I feel this is a great school district and it has been good to me and my family so I thought I'd try to give something back.

2. *What attributes do you consider to be essential for successful school board members?*

A good board member must listen to everyone and make decisions best for the school, students and the community.

3. *What is your vision for education in this community?*

To have educated students that have the ability to move on from High School and become productive adults that thrive in the world.

4. *What do you see as the three most pressing issues facing public education, and what is your vision for addressing those?*

The three most pressing issues facing public education are too much Government oversight while stripping parental rights and threatening teachers with the loss of their jobs if they do not follow through with political and social agendas. Secondly, the indoctrination of children's thoughts and not allowing critical self-thinking. The last issue facing the public education system is the lack of accountability for student actions. My vision is to have an open line of communication between the district, school board and community. This way everyone can make informed decisions and feel comfortable enough to speak out when they feel something needs to be addressed.

5. *Legislation establishes state policy for education, and there are several state bills that would systematically impact public schools. To what extent would you like to be involved in legislative activity? What responsibilities do board members have regarding advocacy?*

I would like to stay informed of the education legislation so that I can keep the people of our district informed of what is going on and make their voices heard. I feel the board has a responsibility to support the issues our community agree with and voice our disagreement with those that do not align with our communities' beliefs.

6. *What do you see as our district's educational strengths, and what do you see as areas of improvement?*

Ste. Genevieve is a great school with great teachers. I think we need to teach the basics but still have the technology for the future.

7. *Please share your thoughts on how to provide quality education for a diverse student population? For example, this would include students who use special education services, students who are differently-abled, students who have cultural differences, students who utilize English as a Second Language (ESL) services, students who perform in the average range academically, students who utilize the gifted services, etc.*

By providing a diverse program curriculum. These are serious issues and each is individual and would need to be discussed individually.

8. *What is your position in regard to both character education and social emotional learning in schools?*

This starts at home. But we need to try to see they become productive, well rounded adults.

9. *What kind of relationship should the district and school board have with its community, including any partnerships or activities that could support student achievement outside of school?*

The school board is the community and so is the district. They are made up by the people in our community. When I become a board member I am still part of the community.

10. *What have you done to become informed about our District in order to prepare for your possible election to the school board?*

Read up on School board meetings and attend meetings.

11. *How would you handle requests and/or concerns if approached by an individual or special interest group?*

I would listen and let them know that I will take it up with the board and then I will follow through with my promise and bring it to the board.

12. *Suppose the board made a decision you voted against, and a community member asked you about the decision. How would you handle the situation?*

I would say we made a decision that was in the best interest for the district.

13. *Is there any other information you would like our faculty and staff, our families and our community to know about you?*

I would just like everyone to know that I will do my best to listen to their concerns and to keep our school a place where students are able to receive a great education, by learning and taking on personal responsibilities as well as getting social skills to carry through their adult lives. A big part of that is retaining the great staff that we have in place and hiring new staff that wants to stay involved with the students and their school. I believe that when a staff is happy and satisfied that shows through their work. A staff that is heard is usually a happy staff. I would like the staff to know that I will be there to listen and try my hardest to address any concerns they may have.

I'd like to thank everyone for their votes.