



INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

2024 SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE

Name: Terri Purdy

Occupation: Engineering Program Manager & Process Consultant. I provide end-to-end process consulting - documenting and analyzing processes, identifying strengths and opportunities, making recommendations for improving productivity, and planning/executing a plan for realizing those gains. My expertise is in operations, technology, and software development, and I primarily work with leading edge global companies (AMD, Intel, start-ups).

Years in DSISD: 9.5

Spouse: Matthew

Children: Eleanor, Micah

Education: MS Software Engineering, University of Texas-Austin, 2005. BS Electrical Engineering, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 1997.

Why are you interested in serving as a member of the DSISD Board of Trustees?

Starting as a devoted school volunteer, then dynamic PTA leader, then passionate advocate and school community organizer - DSISD trustee seems like the natural next step for me to serve in Dripping Springs. I have personally invested hundreds of hours educating myself on how public school works here in Dripping Springs ISD, and the state of Texas. During challenging times like the COVID-19 pandemic and the 2022 and 2023 DSISD bond elections, I work very hard to build bridges and genuinely connect with diverse stakeholders throughout the district. I believe those bridges and connections are vital to shaping the future of our school district. As a trustee, my hope is to contribute my time, talents, and extensive knowledge to help DSISD maintain its status as a destination district, while meeting head-on the challenges of fast growth.

Describe your involvement in DSISD?

- District Committees - Currently serving on Long Range Facility Planning Committee and HS #2 Design Committee. Served on Gifted & Talented Advisory Committee (2019-2022)
- DSISD Board Meetings and Workshops - frequently attend and speak at public Board regular meetings, special meetings, and workshops.

- Friends of DSISD (pro-bond PAC), Chair - volunteered 400+ hours to lead a community campaign advocating for the 2023 DSISD Bond initiative. The \$223M bond was passed by 64% of voters in May 2023, the highest margin ever for a bond election in DSISD.
- Dripping Springs Theatre Boosters - member (since 2021)
- DSHS Senior Portfolio/Showcase Panelist (since 2022)
- DSISD Council of PTAs - VP Programs (2023-present), VP Membership (2022-23). Advocated with DSISD Council of PTAs at the State Capitol (TXPTA Rally Day 2023), for the 88th Legislative session to increase public school funding, address teacher retention, oppose vouchers, prioritize student mental health, and reform A-F accountability ratings system to be less dependent on standardized tests.
- Cypress Springs Elementary PTA - President (2021-2023) - chartered and established a new local PTA chapter for the brand new Cypress Spring Elementary school. Starting with a budget of \$5000, we successfully established programs and events to support teachers, enhance student learning, and build community. We also raised over \$100K each year in order to fund playground shades and playground pavement enhancements to improve safety and usability of outdoor spaces. Received recognition as a National PTA School of Excellence - 2021-23.
- Sycamore Springs Middle School PTA - member and volunteer (2021-present)
- Sycamore Springs Elementary PTA - VP Communications (2020-21), VP Enrichments (2019-20), Chair (2017-19). Projects include: PTA Reflections, Math Stars, SSE Garden, Book Fair, Art Appreciation, Spelling Bee, Healthy Living.
- Rooster Springs Elementary PTA - Volunteer, Room Parent (2015-2017)

What community organizations are you actively involved in?

- Nonprofits: Volunteer and supporter of various Dripping Springs/Austin-area organizations such as: DS Hometown Missions, SOFI (School's Out Food In) 2015-2020, Generation SERVE (Little Helping Hands - for children/youth volunteerism), Meals on Wheels Central Texas (weekly delivery driver since 2005), Mobile Loaves & Fishes/Community First Village, Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Action of Central Texas (iACT), Central Texas Food Bank, CROP Walk for Church World Services.
- Neighborhood: Reunion Ranch Water Control & Improvement District - Board Director since 2020. Reunion Ranch HOA Advisory Committee 2017-2018. Reunion Ranch HOA Social Committee 2014-2017.
- Other: First United Methodist Church of Austin - member since 2007. Serving on Administrative Board and as delegate to annual conference. Chaired the Mercy & Justice Committee 2014-2021. Sunday school and VBS teacher 2015-2019. As a certified United Methodist Early Response Team (ERT) member, I have led volunteer teams in providing disaster response/support after events like the Wimberley flood in 2015, Hurricane Harvey in 2017, and Highland Lakes flooding in 2018. I'm also a member of Texas Impact, a faith-based advocacy organization, specifically with their Public School Defenders team.

How has education impacted your life?

Education is the cornerstone of everything I am today. As the child of immigrants, I grew up with a deep appreciation for the American right to a free public education. We were taught to never take that for granted. Because of that public education, I was able to gain admission to a top-ten engineering program at a public in-state university, paving the way to a successful career in the exciting and high-paying tech industry in the Austin area. Without education, I would not be here in Dripping Springs, I would not have met my husband or started a family! Now as a parent of children in the DSISD system, the impact continues to grow as my children are being instilled with the knowledge, skills, and character that will define the trajectory of their adult lives. The profound impact of education, the opportunities and enrichment it has provided in my own life, is what drives my passion for ensuring that every child has access to a robust public education.