

## Dane County Democratic Party Candidate Questionnaire

Bruce W. Fischer

McFarland School Board

<https://www.facebook.com/Bruce-Fischer-for-McFarland-School-Board-103508888400535>

### **Professional Experience:**

Classroom Teacher for 40 years. High School and Middle School. 38 of those years were in the McFarland Schools. I also coached Cross country (39 years) and Track (30 years) at McFarland HS

### **Political/Service Experience:**

I am a member of the Village of McFarland Plan Commission. I am on the Board of the McFarland Food Pantry. I am also a member of McFarland Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee

### **Why Are You Running In This Election?**

I am running for the McFarland School Board because I feel my experience as a classroom teacher will bring a unique and valuable perspective to our School Board. My wife and I have lived in McFarland since 1986. We raised both of our children here, and they both attended and graduated from the McFarland Public Schools. I know this community very well, and know how important the school system is to this community. Because of my life experience as educator, I think I am the most qualified candidate, and I think I can bring ideas to our School Board that will make our public schools even better.

### **What Are The Three Most Important Issues In Your Race?**

The first issue, because of the COVID pandemic, is ensuring that the McFarland schools open safely for students, teachers and staff. We need to be creative, flexible, and above all else, we need to follow CDC guidelines and best practices.

Secondly, we need to optimize school learning by maximizing time spent between teachers and students. We need to find efficient and effective ways to give teachers more time to plan, to grade, and report to students and their parents. We need to respect and empower teachers so that they can be creative in finding ways to connect with their students. In so doing, we will improve educational outcomes that will achieve the highest standards.

Thirdly, in a time of limited economic resources, we need to look at improving and strengthening the partnership between our School District and the Village government. Simply put, this means "Community for the Schools, and Schools for the Community." We need to look at ways we can share our valuable but limited resources, facilities and services.

### **What Are The Largest Environmental Concerns You Aim To Deal With In Office?**

As a member of the Ad Hoc Sustainability for the Village of McFarland, I would like to see the McFarland community schools install solar panels on our school buildings as the Monona Grove school district has done.

### **How Will You Use Your Position To Create More Equitable Opportunities And Help Those Living In Poverty?**

One my biggest priorities is try to improve and strengthen the partnership between our Schools and the Village of McFarland. The McFarland schools have facilities that we need to make more available to the community. However, I believe the community has

talented individuals who can work as volunteers, mentors and tutors. We need to ask members of the community to get involved and help work with students who don't have the necessary resources to be as successful as they could be.

### **How Do We Address Racial Inequality?**

There needs to be a focus on hiring diverse staff as well as supporting student groups that are working to address these issues.

### **How will you promote restorative justice and address abusive and racist practices by the police force?**

**Due to the ongoing economic impact of Coronavirus, many local governments are expecting unprecedented budget shortfalls. What would you prioritize in the budget? Where would you make cuts?**

**How have you elevated diverse voices in government and public discourse? How would you continue to do so if elected to this office?**

**What Are The Largest Transportation Issues You Wish To Work On And How Will You Address Them?**

**Any Other Issues/Topics You Wish To Discuss?**