

School Board Place 4

William Wasson



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William Wasson, 28, 1312 Airline, systems audit manager for A&M System.

Why do you think you're qualified to hold a position on the school board?
I think that this school board is going to have to answer some of the difficult questions in the history of this district, in particular in the area of finance. By that I mean financing programs and financing facilities. I think my background experience lends itself well to this type of decision making. I've been working in administration and planning since I graduated from college, about eight years total.

What do you consider to be the highest priorities of the board?
I think at this point the highest priority of the board has to be the employment and maintenance of existing fiscal plants. It must be adequate in terms of overcrowding.

Are you in favor of the April 3rd bond issue? What objections, if any, do you have to it?
It looks like a good package to me and I think there are so many needs in there that we need and we

William Fitch



William Fitch

William Fitch, 54, 1712 Glade, builder and investor. Former councilman, 1952-56.

Why do you think you're qualified to hold a position on the school board?
I'm 54 and I've devoted the last 30 years of my life to building College Station in home building, apartment, and commercial business and developing subdivisions to provide places for the people who come to Texas A&M University to live — the staff, faculty, and students. With the experience I have had in this city, I think I know what we can afford, and what the people want.

What do you consider to be the highest priorities of the board?
The highest priority of the board is to see to it that we have a good, basic, fundamental elementary education system. It has nothing to do with buildings, it's what happens inside the classroom. We want a good school system, we want the best, but I don't think that it necessarily follows that if you have the best it has to be the most expensive.

Are you in favor of the April 3rd bond issue? What objections, if any, do you have to it?
I have to be in favor of the bond issue because time is running out and I would like to see the people approve this bond issue. I'm afraid they won't. I think all the cost proposals are overstated by 30 per cent at least. They have allocated twice as much money as they need to accomplish what needs to be done. We have to have these additional facilities. And rather than put it off for another two months and not being able to finish what we need to have finished by next fall I'd rather go ahead and pay this one.

Would you support another bond election if this one fails?
Yes, only we'd cut it to about \$4.5 million, and we would clearly state the needed items so the people can pick what they want to vote for.

The school board has made a diligent effort to put out this information, but they cast the information in such language that most people don't know what the board said.

Should the curriculum be expanded on both the elementary and secondary levels? What courses should be included?
I think if anything, we may have an overexpanded curriculum right now. I see a drift beginning toward more and more cluttering up of our elementary educational system with what's called enrichment programs. But I think they're confusing pro-

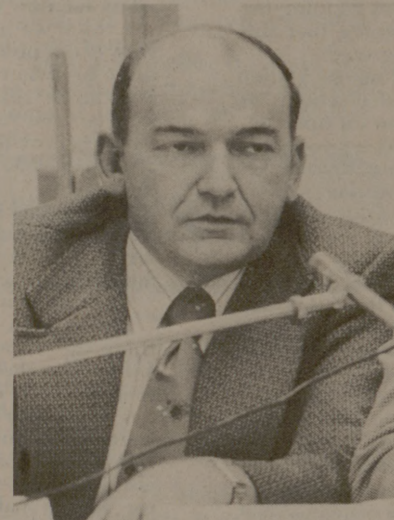
grams at the expense of seeing that children by the end of the third grade can read and write well and have a basic background in elementary mathematics.

In what cases should corporal punishment be used?
I don't think that you ever need to strike a child. I think that the proper attitude and the demand of respect on the part of teachers starting in the very first grade, and if you let them get to the fifth grade running wild I think you create a bunch of little hoodlums.

Is there a drug problem in the district? If so, what corrective measures should be taken?
I would really like to handle drug pushers and peddlers by hanging

See Fitch, page

Fred Bouse



Fred Bouse

Fred Bouse, 41, 2911 Texas Ave., cultural engineer.

Why do you think you are qualified to hold a position on the school board?
I have been interested in the schools for a number of years, I have seen children currently in the school system. I have worked actively with various community agencies the last several years. I have been able to know a lot of people; I think I am in a position maybe to express their views on the board and to represent a fairly large segment of the community.

I am an agricultural engineer, (See Bouse, page 10)

Helen Wilborn



Helen Wilborn

Helen Wilborn, 23, drug abuse counselor at Crossroads Outreach Center.

Why do you think you're qualified to hold a position on the school board?
I'm very concerned with my people and I love children. I'm willing to give time and effort to the community and I can't think of a better place to start than the school system. If the students fail then society is going to fail too.

What do you consider to be the highest priorities of the board?
The greatest responsibility that they have is making the policies that will affect the entire school district. (See Wilborn, page 10)

Bruce Upham



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Bruce Upham, 20, 1209 Munson, sophomore business management major at Texas A&M.

Why do you think you're qualified to hold a position on the school board?
I've lived in College Station for the last 12 years and am attending school (Texas A&M) locally. I started third grade in the A&M Consolidated system and graduated in 1974. I think that being in the school system for 10 years as a student and now being out of the system looking back and having the experience I had with the community plus attending board meetings would give me a good background.

What do you consider to be the highest priorities of the board?
One of the most urgent needs is the bond issue. We need new facilities and upgrading of the facilities we have because they are overcrowded. They are falling apart and some of them are even washing down the creeks from erosion.

All these things need to be taken care of because of rapidly increasing enrollment. We also have to provide room for a full-day kindergarten to open in 1977. We also desperately need a vocational building to alleviate the crowding in the classroom at the high school and to keep our accreditation which we risk losing.

Are you in favor of the April 3rd bond issue?
Yes.

Would you support another bond issue if this one fails?
The board would have to evaluate why the bond failed and then do anything necessary to alleviate the problems of the schools. It might even call for a new bond issue, but if the bond fails another solution may have to be found.

Should the curriculum be expanded on both the elementary and secondary levels? What courses should be included?
In the fifth and sixth grade curriculums should be expanded if the bond issue passes because they will be moved into a new building. I'm satisfied with the elementary and high school curriculums. I wouldn't be against any expansion in the number of courses offered, but I don't see any need right now.

In what cases should corporal punishment be used?
It should be used very seldom because it is degrading to the students. It shouldn't be used in the first few offenses. The students should be counseled out of the classroom. Repeated offenses, like constantly playing hooky, or serious offenses bordering on suspension, should require it, but only in the case of seventh grade or above.

Is there a drug problem in the district? What corrective measures should be taken if there is?
School jurisdiction over the drugs. Have you been satisfied with the performance of the present school board?
I think the school board is doing a good job. They have been examining everything very closely. I'm satisfied with their decisions. In cases where they didn't know themselves they've asked the community. They've done as good a job as they can do.

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