

# — PEOPLE FOR — HONEST POLITICS

## Candidate Questionnaire

Why are you running for the Gillette Community College Board of Trustees? If elected, what will be your priorities?

There is not an endless stream of tax dollars available to sustain the college. It is vital that dollars are properly allocated to the programs that have and will strengthen industries vital to Campbell County today and in the future. Without this focus, businesses that employ nurses, mechanics, welders, electricians, plumbers, and other tradespeople will continue to look outside of Gillette for a skilled labor force. This should not be necessary given the taxes paid by our citizens to support Gillette College.

Is there a particular issue that motivates you to serve on this board?

Throughout my career in the mechanical industry, I have hired students from Gillette College and other educational institutions. Students from Gillette College enter the workforce more well-trained and prepared to hit the ground running as welders and mechanics than any other school. This is due to the knowledge and skills of a group of phenomenal instructors. Such quality instructors are difficult to hire and retain. Due to a lack of instructors, students applying to the welding program have been put on a waiting list, and many choose to go somewhere else. This needs to be addressed immediately. We have world-class facilities, but without quality and committed instructors they mean nothing. College instructors and professors need the full support of the Board of Trustees.

What experiences or skills have prepared you to be a trustee?

I am a sixth generation Wyoming native. My wife and I moved to Gillette in 1998 so I could attend the Diesel Technology program at Gillette College. Since graduating more than 25 years ago, I have worked as a diesel mechanic, supervisor, planner and manager at local coal mines and a silver mine in Alaska. Currently, I am the Industrial Services Manager for Interstate Power Systems here in Gillette.

What community organizations have you been involved in?

I also serve as Vice President of the Mining Association of Wyoming.

I have also been a member of both the Diesel and Welding Advisory Committees for Gillette College. While at Gillette college I participated in SkillsUSA and have enjoyed participating as a judge of the Diesel Skills competitions since that time.

How will you promote your candidacy?

I am currently attending the candidate forums at the Senior center, the radio and answering any questions as people in the community see that I am running for this position.

Could you support a board decision you did not vote in favor of? Why or why not?

I think that this is a critical part of being on a board. You need to have the courage to voice what you think is correct and have the ability to communicate those ideas. Once the decision is made you need to be supportive of those decisions.

How often do you attend Gillette College Board of Trustees meetings?

I have not attended the meetings in person. As the meetings have been recorded I am able to watch them at a latter date. I have attended the Gillette College department committee meeting(Welding and Diesel) for many years.

Please return your responses via email at [hello@peopleforhonestpolitics.com](mailto:hello@peopleforhonestpolitics.com)

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