



Board of Education Candidate Survey 2021 Birmingham Municipal Election

Greater Birmingham Ministries invites you to complete this candidate survey. Your responses will inform our non-partisan 2021 Birmingham Municipal Election Guide, which will reach over 20,000 Birmingham residents. Please return your completed candidate survey to electionguide@gbm.org by July 2.

Name: Daagye Hendricks

District: 4

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Campaign Social Media Pages: Support Daagye Hendricks-Facebook

- 1. Please provide a 2-3 sentence biography.**

I am Daagye Hendricks and I am the current President of the Birmingham Board of Education. A native of Birmingham, I have used my talents and gifts to serve in many capacities throughout the city/region for decades. I am a BCS parent and have been active in the school system before, during, and after serving in this capacity.

- 2. Please name any endorsements you have received.**

None at this point

- 3. What do you see as the board's roles and responsibilities?**

The Board's primary responsibility is to hire, fire, and govern the Superintendent. We have minimal operational responsibilities but have the responsibility of representing the 44 schools and 23,000 students/families.

4. What are the biggest issues for students and families in your district and how would you address those issues in your role as a Board Member?

Accelerating the Elevation of Academic Achievement-Academic achievement is the overarching goal for all school systems. At BCS, we are taking additional measures to reduce barriers for academic success with one to one technology, upgraded facilities, and free credit recovery, drop out recovery, and after school programs for students post pandemic.

Access to World Class Programming/Opportunities-As the current board member, I have presented and executed many opportunities within our system that directly benefit our children. We aim to provide the same bundle of services in neighboring school systems and I have worked diligently to provide partnerships to bridge the gap. (one-to one technology, workforce development, NSBE and Jones Valley Teaching Farm partnerships)

Mental Health/Health Related Services-Our community needs healing. As a board, we have put in place many programs and collaborative efforts to address our growing mental health and health related concerns. We are the 1st and only school system recognized by the White House for vaccine efforts for students and staff in the Southeast.

5. What role, if any, does the Birmingham Board of Education and Birmingham City Schools play in community and public safety?

The safety and security of our students is extremely important. This responsibility however is shared with our local governmental officials as a community concern. We should all work together to provide a safe and secure environment for all students in and out of the classroom.

6. As a Board Member, will you advocate for policies that protect queer and transgender youth? If so, how?

I have always been an advocate for the LGBTQIA+ community and have served as a volunteer for many activities throughout the region. At BCS, the board has altered policies to be more inclusive for all students, regardless of race, creed, gender, or sexual orientation.

7. What is your position on charter schools?

Charter schools have been in existence for decades nationwide. They have had success stories and horrible failures depending on the State. I am not opposed to charter schools properly applied and managed. I am also however a strong supporter of public education. There are so many needs and so much work to be done in this space that I concentrate efforts in improving and advocating for public education. Anyone running for this office should be able to say that confidently...or why serve?

8. There is a national conversation on teaching Critical Race Theory in public schools to make public education more equitable. Do you believe the BCS curriculum should be changed to be more equitable? If so, how?

The board has already had discussion around this issue and has started taking steps to address this concern for BCS. The policy committee is currently working on language to speak to the inequity and how we will address CRT going forward.