

Jason Meadows

District 9

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Jason Meadows Birmingham Board of Education District 9

1. I have lived in District 9 for over 30 years in the Smithfield Estates neighborhood and have served as a Youth Pastor in the Smithfield Community for 14 years, mentoring hundreds of young women and men. I went on to serve as Manager of Community Partners within Oliver Elementary where I was responsible for assisting the principal and facilitating wrap-around services through other partners organizations. Those services included food, clothing, health, and other important resources for students.

2.

3. The role of the Board of Education is to govern the school system in concert with the superintendent, establish a vision for the system by adopting goals that address student needs, advance student performance, and monitor the implementation of policies and programs by reviewing data. The Board also adopts written policies and procedures, consider and approve the operating budget and most importantly advocate for students and teachers.

4. Based on information received from from administrators in District 9, the biggest issues are how will we address the "COVID slide" (COVID slide is the missed learning time due to the pandemic.) and the need for a skills and trade academy in the school district. Students need a certified pathway into the workforce. This forges another success track for students.

5. The Board and BCS play a major role in community and public safety. The schools are a major community hub. It unites community members at sporting events, the dispensation of resources, and celebratory programs and services. While working at Oliver elementary we were able to engage parents about adult education options and other family services. As for public safety, the schools play a role by educating students during seminars and special services. While at Oliver, the principal and I were able to host a conflict resolution symposium with a presentation by a school resource officer.

6. I believe in the FAIR TREATMENT of all students including queer and transgender youth. However, I do not believe it is fair to create policies for one sect of students but, all students.

7. My position on charter schools is as the elected education officials, the board's job is to properly educate our constituents on charter schools so parents can make informed decisions about their children. They need to know charter schools are free public schools. They also need to know all charter schools are not the same. Their missions are established by the leaders of the school. Therefore, parents need to research and not assume the school's mission.

8. I do believe in equitable education and students being properly educated on race. I think it builds positive awareness of the contributions of all races. It will also encourage students on their potential and empower them to make the changes needed in society to create equitable opportunities. As for the changes in curriculum, I think those should be made at the guidance of the superintendent. Because it is not the board's job to effect day-to-day operations of the school.