

There was not a single day in my 27 years of teaching, that I questioned the importance of where I was going each morning, or what I was doing. Education was respected and revered by my family growing up and school was a crucial arena. As a mother of six children, I believe that parents are meant to be the primary teachers of their children. There has got to be an enormous amount of trust by the parent towards the school; that the educational process will work successfully for their children.

I taught for 19 years at Blue Ridge and have the utmost respect for the school district. My six children all graduated from Blue Ridge and have wonderful memories of their years spent at Blue Ridge. I now have a number of grandchildren in the district and I want their time to be equally beneficial and enjoyable.

I feel it essential that our district utilize its resources wisely, efficiently and properly; be it buildings, buses or personnel. It is imperative to be mindful of necessary repairs as our buildings age. Budget constraints dictate difficult choices, and there are no easy answers.

I feel it critical to graduate students who can move to the next level comfortably. If it is higher education, they are prepared. If they enter into the work force, they have some skills and can move beyond a minimum wage job fairly quickly. We should never lose sight of the vast discrepancy of our student population and the dictates of that.

In fairness to our students, we have the obligation to keep up with technology and other things critical to future success. It is also important to expect and foster proper respect for self and others throughout the entire educational process; knowing that this is such a critical cornerstone for future happiness and success.

Parents have many choices with education for their children these days. I believe that public education gives each child a great mixture of diversity in so many areas. In addition, I know personally that Blue Ridge has committed teachers and staff who work tremendously hard for student success.

I don't pretend to know all the answers, but will listen to the questions that arise. I will educate myself with information and facts available and make the best decision I am able in each situation. In closing, I would like to add that as a board member I would support that partnership between parent and school; believing that, in the end, it will provide the best for the students.