

**MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA  
Tuesday, June 26, 2018  
5:30 p.m. - Business Building Boardroom**

1. **Call to Order** Vice-Chair Diane Lorenzen
2. **Introduction** Mark Thane
3. **Interview Applicant for Board of Trustees Vacancy (Sec)(Action) – Vice-Chair Diane Lorenzen**  
The Board declared the High School Trustee seat for District “B” vacant on May 17, 2018. This position votes on 9-12 issues, representing the Target Range and Bonner boundary areas. Applications for this vacant seat were due on Monday, June 11, 2018; and one individual submitted application materials. The interview questions and the application documents for Sharon Sterbis are included in the packet.  
**Board Discussion/Direction:**
4. **Issue Certificate of Appointment and Administer Oath of Office (Sec)(Action) – Pat McHugh, District Clerk**
5. **Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics – Pat McHugh, District Clerk**
6. **Public Comment**
7. **Adjourn**

June 11, 2018

Dear MCPS Board of Trustees,

My name is Sharon Sterbis, and I am interested in being appointed to the vacant high school trustee position for the Target Range and Bonner areas until the next election in May 2019. I can attest that I am a registered voter that lives within the Target Range boundaries. I have currently started my second term as a school board trustee on the Target Range School Board, but since our school board meetings are held on the third Monday of the month, the two positions should not conflict. As a homemaker with my youngest entering Big Sky High School this coming fall, I have the time and the interest in being a part of the MCPS Board of Trustees. I have two older daughters that went through Big Sky from 2009-2015, so I have already been a MCPS high school parent. I also think that being a part of the two school boards would complement each other since Target Range School feeds into the MCPS high schools. My answers to your questions are listed below.

1. I want to be a school board member because I find being a trustee very fulfilling as I support education for future generations. I believe I have gained valuable experience from my last term on the Target Range School Board which included being two years as board chair. I have since passed on that honor to another trustee, so I will have more time to contribute to the MCPS board.
2. The only objective I will have is to become an effective trustee who can work well with my fellow trustees on this board. I went to board meetings at Target Range for over 10 years before I became a trustee. In contrast, I have only been to one MCPS board meeting when one of my daughters received an award, so I will start by being an attentive listener and observer as well as solicit advice and information from my fellow trustees and the superintendent. Having looked at MCPS agendas online, I realize that I have a lot to learn to be a trustee of a much larger school district.
3. I have three years of school board experience including two years as chair where I worked closely with our superintendent and district clerk in preparing agendas and approving claims. I learned a lot on how to run a meeting and was glad to have a second year as chair to show that I can learn from my mistakes. I also was on our negotiations committee which negotiated our current two year CBA's for our certified and classified staff.
4. My financial priorities would be supporting all MCPS schools equally to provide excellent educational opportunities for their students.
5. Not being a trained educator, I would defer to the experts in improving student achievement, but the tricky part is how to define student achievement. I do not believe standardized testing mandated by the federal government is the best indicator of student achievement. Instead, I prefer models that focus on personalized learning and assessments that can measure individual growth.

6. If a parent came to me with a problem with a MCPS employee, I would ask the superintendent's input on how to address the parent.
7. I believe in supporting and letting administration do their jobs, and I would never want to micro manage, which is the philosophy I have taken as a Target Range School Board trustee.
8. The most important responsibilities of the superintendent are planning the budget effectively to provide the best education for our students with the best facilities and effective organization of the staff so that they are supported in their positions.
9. I would foster a relationship with the superintendent with effective communication. If I am appointed a trustee, I would like to start by meeting with Superintendent Thane. Target Range's superintendent has lunches with trustees two at a time to avoid a quorum, and they are great opportunities to learn and express ideas and interests. I would hope there are similar opportunities with this board and superintendent.
10. I would stand for the election in May 2019 if this year is successful for me being on two boards at the same time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sharon Sterbis  
4652 South Ave W  
Missoula, MT 59804  
406-327-1540 (home)  
406-544-0478 (cell)  
mtsterbisrunner@gmail.com

June 26, 2018  
MCPS Open Trustee Seat Interview Follow Up Questions

1. Please tell us why you want to be a trustee on the MCPS board and what experiences and skills you would bring to the board. (Please include any information about personal involvement in MCPS schools to date.)
2. What current curricular programs in MCPS high schools contribute to a well-rounded education for high school students?
3. How do you see your role as a high school trustee representing feeder schools to MCPS high schools?
4. What do you believe to be the strengths of the MCPS district, and what would you identify as areas to review or possibly change?
5. As a trustee new to the MCPS board, what do you see as your role on the board this next year?