



Know Your School Board Candidates

May 2017 Primary

Big Spring School District Voter Guide

Cooke/Penn Townships

Wilbur E. Wolf, Jr. Participated

Lower Mifflin Township

David W. Gutshall Did Not Participate

Newville Borough

Robert Barrick Did Not Participate

Robert S. Over Did Not Participate

Upper Mifflin Township

Kingsley J. Blasco Did Not Participate

AAUW is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Since our founding in 1881, members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political at the local, state, national levels. AAUW is nonpartisan and committed to working in collaboration with diverse allies to break through educational and economic barriers for women and girls.

Wilbur E. Wolf, Jr.

School District	Big Spring -- Cooke/Penn Townships
Ballot	Both Democratic and Republican
Term	4 year
Where can voters go for more information about you?	<i>Not provided</i>
Biographical statement	<i>Not provided</i>

1. Why are you running for the school board? Provide the qualifications you have that will enable you to be an effective school board member.

To continue the programs that we have put in place to provide outstanding education opportunities to the children of the Big Spring School District. 28 years as a member of the Big Spring Board, 24 as President. Service on the Joint Operating Committee of CPAVTS and Board of the Capital Area Intermediate Unit.

2. What are your priorities for the school district? Speak to the strengths and weaknesses in your school district.

Continue to give the students the best preparation for their future. Tailor the educational process to individual student needs. The District is a leader in providing students with advanced technology and the opportunity to experience real life situations through the Business Incubator Program.

3. ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) calls for K-12 to provide well-rounded education. What do you think well-rounded education looks like at the elementary grades? Middle school? High School?

The ESSA and other Federal and State mandates are bringing one size fits all requirements to the local districts and limit the ability to tailor programs to meet individual needs.

4. It is the responsibility of the school board to serve the best interests of the students. How would you fulfill that responsibility?

By supporting policies that give Administrators the financial and professional support needed to develop programs to properly prepare students for their future.

5. What is appropriate relationship between the school district and charter schools, including cyber schools, in its boundaries?

The District must, to the extent possible, accept and fund charter schools. By providing our students with our own online courses we are able to keep some students under our umbrella, properly monitor their progress and minimize the cost to our taxpayers. One of the problems with charter schools is the lack of accountability for student progress.

6. Given the realities of state support for K-12 and the prospect of not seeing big increases in state funding, what is the appropriate response for the school district?

We have to continue to search for the most cost effective ways to address the State and Federal mandates and offset the cost of the pension system. We must try very hard to maintain current course offerings and extra curricular activities.

7. What is the role of the school board as it relates to the role of the superintendent and administration?

The School Board sets policy that gives guidance to the Superintendent and Administrators who then are responsible for developing process and procedures for implementing those policies.

8. How do you measure success in the district?

Providing an educational opportunity that addresses individual student needs, keeps them interested in learning and attending school and have them graduate with skills that will allow them to be successful citizens. We also believe they should be instilled with the understanding that service to community and country is an obligation of citizenship.

9. How is school board accountable to the public?

Open public meeting, both full Board and Committee meetings. The public is provided the opportunity to address the Board at all Board meetings. Board members are also available to their constituents by phone or email.