



## **SOUTH KITSAP SCHOOL BOARD AND PORT OF BREMERTON COMMISSIONER (LWV-KITSAP)**

When **15 Jul 2019**  
**6:30 PM**

Location **County**  
**Administration**  
**Building**

South Kitsap School Board and Port of Bremerton Commissioner

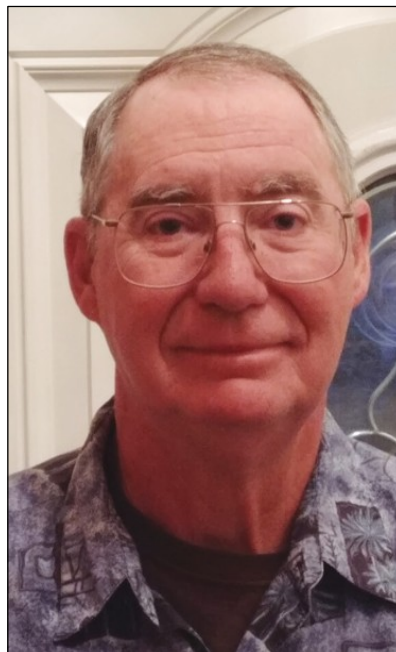
Monday, July 15 6:30 p.m.  
County Administration Building  
619 Division St., Port Orchard

SK School Board District 2 Candidates:  
Robert Lamb, Glenny Compton, John R. Berg

SK School Board District 5 Candidates:  
Jeff Daily, Greg Wall, Jill A. Boltz

Port of Bremerton District 2 Candidates:  
Jack Edwards, Gary K. Anderson, Michael Nicosia

### **Jeff Daily Submission to League of Woman Voters**



Dear Jeff Daily,

Thank you for participating in our 2019 online voters' guide. We appreciate your cooperation. Here is a copy of your submission:

What unique qualities about yourself, your experiences, and your education separate you from the other seekers of this office?

My degrees and experience in Finance and Accounting show that I understand the budgeting and accounting processes needed to manage the district finances; a paramount duty of the board. My military experience shows that my family has lived in a number of places other than Washington. My son attended six schools so we are familiar with how other communities, countries, and school systems work. Having a perspective other than living in Port Orchard all our lives is important because we see other ways to do things that the district may not have considered. As a current SPED teacher, I taught at the SKHS for 12 years. I understand the district procedures, I know the district people, and I know the teachers. I have been there and understand both the joys and challenges that teacher's face on a daily basis. I have been researching the community, district, and the position for a year. I do my own research and any data that I offer can be checked by anyone who wishes. I am a doer, not a talker.

*What, in your opinion, are the three most pressing issues facing your school district at this time?*

1. The most important issue by far is academic excellence for ALL students. Despite strong community financial support, the district remains low among the state school districts in terms of test scores and academic standing. The best measure of success is how are SK graduates doing at college, technical skills, and their choice of profession; not the graduation rate which is easily manipulated.

2. The second is transparency and trust. Many folks are wary of the school district as evidenced by the number of bond and levy failures. Running a bond issue 4 times without going back to the community after the first failure to see what voters were concerned about shows a lack of respect for the voter voice.

3. Third, financial accountability eludes the district. In most cases, the accounting systems are unable to tell voters how much a specific program costs. The district payroll has increased to \$108 M out of a \$147 M budget. It will cost the district \$5.4 M in increased pay costs each year.

*How would you address the one at the top of your list?*

3. Academic excellence for all students is the mission of any school district- period. First, all personnel and all programs need to be reviewed to see if they are directly supporting the mission of academic excellence. Once the district has restored academic excellence, then other programs need to be funded. Self-supporting clubs and activities needs to be the rule versus asking the taxpayer to fund any idea that comes along. Academic excellence is paramount- then other programs. Second, the district needs to implement "metrics" in all areas. Metrics are how businesses measure success and allows them to focus on their main objectives and problem issues. An example is personal budgeting. If you have trouble budgeting your money correctly, you track every expenditure for a month or so and find the "leaks". The district needs to implement metrics in all areas to achieve academic excellence and for cost control. You can't fix what you don't measure. Every successful business does this.

*How would you balance educational opportunities between schools?*

4. Since the goal is academic excellence for ALL students, all student need access to the same programs at their level and at their school. If the IB and Spanish Immersion programs are so great, why are they not offered at all schools to give all students the same opportunity? Answer- because they are so expensive which is why other school districts did not implement them. Other districts prefer to spend their money on needs that the majority of student require, not just a certain segment. The district IB program graduated 10 students this year. SKHS classes are not full and many parents and students prefer to start college at the HS level or later. The Spanish Immersion program has few students in it? Isn't this region heavily Asian and our trade with those countries? Isn't it these folks whom our student professionals will work with in the future? Are these pet projects or just a way to be different to attract students? If so, is it working given the huge cost of each program.

*How would you assure the safety of all students in your schools?*

5. No one can assure or guarantee the safety of students at school. The district forgets that the students are vulnerable when grouped together during fire drills, elementary school recesses, sports fields, school bus loading, and sitting waiting for them all to leave at one time. Our school cafeteria doors are open in the back of all schools most of the time, the south entrance to the SKHS not blocked off full time, badges are not worn by all personnel, and "maintenance" vehicles are allowed unannounced on playgrounds and at schools at any time. The district needs

to learn to live with the inconvenience of passes, pre- announcement, and all administrators outside watching the wooded areas and parking lots for problem issues when kids are outside the building for bus activity, recess, fire drills, etc. Video cameras for all schools should be a very high priority. The PO Police and Kitsap County Sheriffs should be visible during bus activity, fire drills,, etc. when kids are vulnerable.

*What are the issues that need to be addressed to provide racial equality in the schools?*

The question implies that racial inequality could be an issue in the SKSD. If so, this is the responsibility of every teacher, administrator, principal, district staff member, and the Superintendent to fix immediately. If a school is tolerating racial inequality, why are the people involved still employed? Since this is federal law and now a cornerstone of our society, unions need to understand that employees who are contributing to such an issue are terminated- period. No tolerance for this is acceptable at any level. If a Principal needs help to solve the issue, the district is full of people who are highly paid to help as well as the Superintendent. The Superintendent should always be informed of any issue of this type and if not taking immediate action, they should be terminated- period.

*How should technical training be offered in the secondary schools?*

7. How about asking the student and the parents what they want. What is their choice of a career profession and then the district staff maps out how to get each student there? The money comes from programs not supporting the primary objective- Academic excellence so a student can pursue their desired profession. If not offered at the high school, the district staff can find who does and find a way to help the student get there and where they want to go. If cheaper, bring the program to the high school. The district cannot offer everything to everyone but can offer what most students' want- shipyard skills, automotive trades, construction craft trades, etc. Instead of cutting programs when money is tight, how about reducing redundant staff and district staff and using that money to fund the programs versus asking the taxpayer for more money. How about contracting out many of the tasks that maintenance does (lawn mowing, painting, etc.) versus adding more expensive people to the payroll?

*How can the schools provide adequate education for homeless, immigrant, refugee and non-English speaking children at all levels?*

8. Again, another question that possibly implies that the district does not provide an education for all students. If so, what is the district staff for? If the law mandates this or other requirements, why is the district not in compliance? It is their job to work with community officials, family and students affected, and then with the principals of each school to ensure that each student in our district is offered a superb education. If the SKSD is not providing this, what is the Superintendent doing as well as the district staff? What are all these directors, assistant directors, and others doing if it is not providing the needed services to all students? Why do we tolerate people not doing their job if this should be a problem in the SKSD? Money- it comes from people or programs not in direct support of the primary district mission - to provide a superb education for ALL students- period.

