

OPINION

Time for new school board leadership

Lucinda Tharp, Port Orchard Published 11:59 a.m. PT May 5, 2019

School boards are uniquely American. They are formed in our democracy to keep the public in public schools by communicating the values of the community into their schools. The ultimate goal is student achievement. No other elected body of government has such an impact on our community long term as the school board.

School boards are often embroiled in controversy. In the case of South Kitsap School District, there is community criticism over how they spend the approximate 150 million of your tax dollars.

The superintendent and board spend without regard for how monies are to be used according to state legislation. Currently levy monies designated by the state as basic education funds are used for for education enhancement. These dollars should be under a different levy and subject to what the voters okay.

What is even worse, the SKSD Board and superintendent are not open to questions or comments in meetings. They are known to cut people off after calling on them and when questioned about deficit spending responding with "because we can."

Our community is one of hard working folks who pay their taxes and we expect that the district and board be open and respect our views even if our input is hard to hear. It's their job.

Three of the five board seats are coming open and filing time is coming up on May 13. If you care about the education of our children and respect all of our community members, please consider running for this important office.

Lucinda Tharp, Port Orchard

Read or Share this story: <https://www.kitsapsun.com/story/opinion/readers/2019/05/05/time-new-school-board-leadership/1112420001/>