

What are you voting for?

Some things are simply none of our business. We don't generally ask someone their age, for example, or how much money they make.

"Who are you voting for?" is another one. Most of us, thankfully, have come to realize that who one votes for is a private matter, an individual choice made when one marks their ballot.

Of course, this isn't to say we shouldn't talk about the school board by-election in Mountain View School Division or that we shouldn't ask questions. Quite the opposite. What we have to do is make sure we're asking the right questions. Before we decide *who* we're voting for, we first have to know *what* we're voting for.

In last week's issue of the Dauphin Herald, the newspaper and The Manitoba Teachers' Society partnered to pose six questions to the candidates running for a total of four trustee positions in the division. The answers to those questions are candid and enlightening, and I strongly encourage you to read them. Use your phone to scan the QR code below, check last week's edition of the Herald or visit the MTS website at mbteach.org to read the content.

To their credit, all but one candidate responded to the questions, sharing everything from what they feel qualifies them to sit on the school board to what their priorities would be once elected. They also share how, if at all, they would tangibly commit to healing and meaningful Reconciliation in a community that has been deeply hurt—betrayed, in fact, by folks they had trusted to build a public education system that values, inspires and safeguards each and every student in the division.

Each candidate has a vision for your community's schools.

How about you? Do you have a vision for your children's education? Who among the candidates best represents what you want for Mountain View students, and for your community? The Herald Q+A may just help you decide.

So, as we enter the final two weeks of the campaign, reach out to your candidates and ask questions. Their contact information is included in the Q+A.

Make an informed choice on October 30. When you know what you're voting for, the who becomes pretty clear.



President, Manitoba Teachers' Society