

## **Jeff Knapp Announces Candidacy for LISD School Board of Trustees**

*“I’m joining the game; I’m eager to serve.”*

February 19, 2010

LEWISVILLE -- Jeff Knapp’s DNA is all about ownership, accountability and enthusiasm. These are the inherent traits that will certainly make him a worthy contributor to our community as a member of the Lewisville Independent School District Board of Trustees.

“Everyone should take ownership in their community and their schools, and one way to do that is to get involved,” Knapp said. “If I’m standing on the sidelines and have an issue with the direction that our school district is heading, then I have only myself to blame if I don’t like the results. I’m joining the game; I’m eager to serve.”

Since moving to the area almost 16 years ago, Knapp has served and been a part of numerous community organizations -- YMCA, FMYSA, LBA, Upward Basketball, LHS Farmerettes Boosters, and LHS Baseball Boosters to name just a few.

“LISD is an outstanding district, and I would love to be a part of making it even better,” Knapp said.

A certified public accountant and 22 year employee at Verizon, Knapp said he recognizes the challenges facing LISD in the coming years.

“We have projected budget deficits with a lot of new construction going on in the district,” Knapp said. “The new construction will only add to the financial challenges the district faces. How do we plan to staff these facilities? Are our current teachers forgoing raises? Will we be able to retain these valuable teachers? A district-wide tax increase is on the table, but is that really the answer to our financial challenges?”

Knapp believes his financial background and professional experience would greatly benefit LISD, especially in these challenging economic times.

“Our Board has served us well over the years, but there should always be room for an injection of fresh ideas and alternative approaches,” he said. “When I see the construction of new buildings and schools, I wonder if renewable energy resources have been considered to keep energy costs as low as possible. Have we considered the logistics of the new schools to shorten bus routes and even the ability to walk to the campus?”

Knapp has spent countless hours in recent months listening to LISD residents’ concerns.

“Our neighbors throughout this district – from Highland Village to The Colony, Carrollton to Bartonville, Flower Mound to Lewisville – have a lot of interesting, and unheard, opinions. Some fresh ideas on the Board would be very beneficial. For example, I believe we owe our taxpayers greater Board transparency in the decision-making process.

“As you can tell, I look forward to the opportunity to serve this district with great enthusiasm,” he said.

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