Bert Stephens

District 11 Candidate

1. **Why are you running for the school board?**

   With my background in Education as well as business, I feel that I can bring value to the board in facing the current and upcoming issues and challenges that we face as a school system. Both of my children attended and graduated from St. Tammany Parish Schools and I want to be part of making this the best system that it can be for our current and future students.

2. **If elected, what would be your top priority as a school board member?**

   It's hard to pick one, but children and staff safety is where I would start.

3. **How do you view the current use of technology in St. Tammany Parish schools? Are there any aspects you would change, maintain, or expand?**

   I would like to see less screen time in the classroom and limit what students have access to on the internet during class.

4. **For each of the following school technology initiatives, please indicate your level of support:**

	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support
Eliminating 1:1 devices from PreK-3rd grade students, with the exception of mandated assessments				🔵	
Establishing specific, enforceable screen time limits by grade level					🔵
Banning student-led use of YouTube and other streaming services				🔵	
Providing parents with transparency regarding technology exposure–both on devices and in teacher-led instruction–including amounts of screen time and the applications and websites accessed.					🔵
Establishing clear guidelines and restrictions for student use of generative AI tools.					🔵

5. **If desired, please explain or provide additional context for any of your responses above.**

6. **Is there anything else you would like voters to know about you?**

   I pride myself in listening and being open to ideas to improve the system. I try to consider all sides of an issue before making a decision on issues.

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