

Dripping Springs

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

2025 SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE

Name: Tricia Quintero

Occupation: Business Manager

Years in DSISD: 5

Spouse: James

Children: Tristan (22), Kylie (14), Carson (12), McKinley (10), Chloe (5)

Education: Tyler Junior College

Why are you interested in serving as a member of the DSISD Board of Trustees?

At the core of my passion for public education are a set of values that I hold dear and strive to live by. Trust. Leadership. A love of learning. Those things were the foundation of my 2022 campaign and help orient my decision-making now. I commit to you now that, if I am fortunate enough to be re-elected, I will remain steadfast in my commitment to those values, even on the most challenging days.

I am proud of the strides that we have made over the last several years, especially as our community dealt with the many ripples from the pandemic. Setting aside our extraordinary efforts to beat back mask mandates, school closures, and the politicization of the classroom, we have in more recent times charted out the district's future course with a new strategic plan to help turn our students into leaders, empower our teachers and staff, and sets us up for success for years to come. Because of this sort of forward-looking vision, the public's confidence in the school board's direction has surged. One recent survey showed that the community's support of DSISD's direction increased 14% over my tenure. Further, my colleagues and I have taken incredible care to improve school safety, through both infrastructure upgrades as well as instituting the School Marshalls' program. Still further, we will soon see some relief to the growth challenges that we all see coming, including our elementary and middle school campuses. In fact, the new elementary school and middle school expansion should soon be complete, beginning the Fall 2025.

Even still, we have more work to do.

As everyone knows, we face significant growth-related challenges, as Dripping Springs continues to attract people from all over the country. Navigating this growth requires a steady hand and a prudent heart. It's critical that we address Dripping's growth needs while also preserving its small-town feel. We cannot lose who we are

in the process. Too, we must continue to prioritize teacher pay, so that our best and brightest earn what they deserve. And of course, I am committed to ensuring that taxpayers' voices are heard in our tax rate-setting, budgeting, and bond issuance processes. Your voice matters most!

I have been incredibly fortunate to have the unwavering support of my family, empowering me to serve as your trustee to push our district forward. Serving in this role has been a family commitment, and I am eternally grateful to have a supportive husband, understanding kids, and a flexible job that allows me to balance my responsibilities as a trustee. As I seek a second term, I humbly and respectfully ask for your continued support. Together, we can overcome our challenges, build upon the successes we've achieved, and continue striving toward a brighter future for our most precious resource, Dripping kids!

Describe your involvement in DSISD?

I trust DSISD with my most precious resource—my kids! Right now, I proudly enroll 4 children in elementary and middle school, which means our family is very active in district activities and wholly invested in its success. Among some of the many things we're involved in are football, band, cross country, and track. Our family is also the proud sponsor of the Sycamore Springs Athletic Booster Club!

It's very important to me that our family be actively involved in extracurriculars. By participating everywhere we can, I hope to give something back to the community, build relationships that wouldn't otherwise exist, and set a positive example for the next generation. It's for those reasons why I currently serve as a member of all district PTAs and DS Pigskins. I also serve on the panels of the senior showcase and volunteer for countless events at the elementary and secondary campuses, including my favorite volunteer opportunity of the year, Tiger Madness.

Because fostering community is such an important thing to me, I've been proud to work with my colleagues over the years to improve our district's community outreach programs. For example, I love and appreciate the opportunity to speak directly to our Veterans, keeping them informed of the latest school happenings. Opportunities like this give me a chance to hear firsthand feedback from Dripping Springs residents and field any concerns.

In a different capacity, I've also served as the liaison for PTA, budget collaborative committee, long-range planning committee, and I'm currently the liaison for the student health advisory committee (SHAC). All of these wonderful opportunities keep me active and invested in DSISD.

What community organizations are you actively involved in?

A longtime volunteer at Bannockburn Baptist Church.

How has education impacted your life?

I am the product of public education. In fact, much of the success that I enjoy today is due to the fact that I had teachers who cared, principals that were leaders, and a system that served me well. Thanks to my educational experience, I was able to develop the tools and critical thinking that I needed to succeed later in life, both professionally and otherwise.

Too, my schooling allowed me to meet lifelong friends, participate in countless sporting events (especially volleyball!), and grow into a well-rounded person. I would not have had it any other way!