

Fair Ferndale**2026 Ferndale Public Schools/ School Board Candidate Questionnaire****Sandra Dukhie**

1. What experiences have led you to run/rerun for school board? I love Ferndale Public Schools. I am a product of the district, former employee and parent of graduates. I take my role as School Boards Member very seriously governing the district while advocating for students is a way I choose to serve my community.

2. What do you see are the strengths and weaknesses of Ferndale Public Schools? Our strength is our ability to provide a safe nest for any student that attends our district - time and time again speaking to students and hear them confirm that they were able to find their tribe. I wouldn't say weakness but more of an opportunity. We have an opportunity to do a better job as a school family to ensure all voices are included, represented, heard and carried into our actions. Just being invited to the table to speak isn't enough.

3. How do you see collaboration between the Ferndale School Board and city governments/ other local stakeholders? While we have great relationships with our city government officials, there is an opportunity to build more intentional relationships that work in collaboration to serve our student community.

4. How do you perceive the relationship among the different schools within FPS? I see FPS as one school family. Like any family, there are times when we need to be intentional about reconnecting and strengthening our relationships. Most days, though, I see the schools as siblings—there's a lot of love and support, along with some natural sibling rivalry.

5. Oakland County voters recently voted against a regional school enhancement millage. How does this affect FPS? More generally, what is your experience with budgeting that you bring to this position? The regional millage was an opportunity for districts to receive funds to augment their budgets. Many districts were considering using those funds specifically to enhance teacher pay among other things and fill in some gaps in current budgets.

6. What role does AI (artificial intelligence) and EdTech have in the classrooms of FPS? I think it is important to teach students how to use the tools available to them to help enhance their education and prepare them for their futures. With everything there is a balance that needs to be achieved.

7. In what ways do you see FPS working toward racial equity? I think FPS can continue to work toward racial equity by making sure every student has the access, opportunity, encouragement, and feels heard, respected, and supported. It's also important to keep listening and learning from different perspectives.

8. How do you see FPS working toward climate sustainability? I see FPS working toward climate sustainability by reducing waste, using resources efficiently, and making sustainability part of our everyday decisions.

9. Are there any additional thoughts you would like to share?

Thank you for the opportunity to share.

Sandra