

**OLATHE U.S. SCHOOL DISTRICT #233, CANDIDATE PROFILE**

**Name:** Robyn Essex

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**Campaign Chair(s):** Robyn Essex

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**Committee Name and Mailing Address:** Robyn Essex for Olathe School Board  
steverobyn27@sbcglobal.net

**Campaign E-Mail:** essexrobyn@gmail.com

**Occupation/Work History (last five years – 15 words):**

Library Clerk/Classified Staff Trainer, Olathe District Schools (2013-2014)

Preschool Teacher, College Church of the Nazarene (2007-2013)

Former Corporate Trainer/Educator, Sprint Corporation

**Most Recent Political/Community Experience (25 words):**

Precinct Committeewoman (2nd term), 3rd District Delegate (2nd term), State Delegate (2nd term). Treasurer for the Olathe Republican Central Committee.

**Are you, or have you been, affiliated with a local or state chamber of commerce? If yes, chamber(s):**

No

**Are you, or have you been, affiliated with any other business organization(s)? If yes, organization(s):**

No

**As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues (6 words per line)**

1. We must make student-focused decisions with our money, our programs, and our curriculum. Standardized test scores do not tell the whole story. Varying our teaching styles and options would allow our students more opportunities for retention and application. "Flipped" classrooms and innovative learning techniques allow for more one on one student-teacher instruction and greater parental involvement! We need to cultivate an environment that encourages the love of learning, not just good test scores.

2. We must take care of our teachers. The US department of Education statistics state America loses 50% of all new teachers within the first five years. The #1 reason is lack of support! I will spend time talking to our teachers and classified staff asking them for their input making sure they feel invested in and valued. Highly qualified teachers are what makes our district successful!

3. We must be good stewards of our money. When cuts are announced, we need to make sure that our classrooms and teachers are the last to be affected. We need to be advocates for our children by communicating with our community and our lawmakers to ensure we are adequately funding education and at the same time being steadfast in identifying wasteful spending.

**I am seeking public office because (25 words):**

I want to be a voice for those who don't feel like they have one and build a bond of trust and transparency between the school's leadership and the community. I want to come alongside our teachers and make sure they feel valued and have the tools they need to be successful. In these days of tightening school budgets, I also want to ensure that money stays in our classrooms. We must be responsible with our spending making sure we are reflecting what is most important in education...our kids and our teachers.