

## The People's Voice Questionnaire

Name/District - Saif Rehman – District 5

List who has been compensated to provide services to your campaign. List your campaign managers. Note current cash on hand in your campaign account, and your donations received and spent. You only need to note figures that are not included yet on campaign finance filings.

- Campaign Manager – Timothy Dull
- Compensation – None except for website development and maintenance and signs / t-shirts printing (information available on the campaign finance report)
- Cash on hand as of 3/30/2020 - \$10,031.80
- Donations to-date - \$8494.00
- Expenses to-date – \$3601.00

List organizations/groups/committees (both education-related and not) of which you are an official member.

- Project Management Professional (PMP) – Project Management Institute
- Certified Instructor – PricewaterhouseCoopers
- The National's Dean List
- Golden Key – International Honor Society (Northcentral University)
- Delta Mu Delta – International Honor Society (Northcentral University)
- Board Member – National Center for Women Entrepreneurship (NCWE)
- Ex-Chair - Federal Contracting Committee for US PAN Asian Chamber of Commerce (USPAACC)
- Member – National Minority Supplier Development Council
- Executive Board Member – NAACP Howard County Chapter
- Member – Community Action Council (CAC) – Howard County
- Member – Special Education Citizens Advisory Council (SECAC) – Howard County
- SECURITY CLEARANCE - SECRET – Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency

## **Community Interest / Position Questions**

1. In what areas of public education do you refuse to compromise, due to strong beliefs? How would you make changes in these areas? Give examples of how you collaborated and compromised with colleagues who disagreed with you. (Character limit please 1200)

First, and most importantly, every decision I make as a board member will always put students first. The bottom line is that every choice we make should help our children reach their maximum potential so that they are ready by the time they leave our school system for college or career. This is a personal value I will always refuse to compromise.

As a business leader, I recognize the importance of being open to new ideas. Businesses don't last unless they can adjust and change with the market. So too should it be the case with our schools. Sharing new ideas requires the ability to listen, collaborate, and implement change. For the last 30 years, I have worked at commercial and government agencies at various industries and at various levels (as an employee, a manager, and ultimately a business owner). In that time, I've learned that every voice has a value and collaboration doesn't mean conformity. Great leadership requires the ability to hear ideas, argue constructively, and make the best decision possible. This philosophy has allowed me to create a successful IT company and it is this philosophy I intend to bring to the school board. I want our board to work as a team and collaborate with all stakeholders to meet our collective goal of maximizing student success in our schools.

2. Give examples, in your personal or professional life, that demonstrate your willingness to hold people accountable and include transparency for the community. (Character limit 1200)

The majority of my three decades of experience has been in roles like that of team lead, project manager, and the last 15 years as CEO of my own IT company. In every role, I understood that each decision made had a consequence attached. Clearly defining those consequences and expectations with my team has been a critical element in how we define success.

I, myself, am responsible for the individual decisions of hundreds of workers. As a CEO, I am fully aware that I am accountable for their successes, failures, and futures. The people who work for me know that I am committed to their success and expect the same of them when it comes to their work. I run a very flat organization to ensure that every decision and process within the company is fully transparent in purpose and performance. Those who succeed are rewarded and those who fail to meet expectations are offered the opportunity to improve.

That same practice should be the case for our school board. As your school board member, I will be working for you and I will be as transparent in my purpose and performance as I can be.

3. For incumbents, what do you feel is your legacy you have left so far on the HCPSS? For other candidates, what would you want your legacy to be and why are you the best choice to create it? (Character limit 1200).

Should I have the honor of earning the voters confidence to serve as their advocate, then when my time with the school board comes to an end my hope is to leave a legacy of excellence in the work we did and leave a system of transparency and consistency in the continuing work done serving our students. I want my children to believe there is no better place for them to raise their families than Howard County. That is my hope and focus as a school board member and it would be the ultimate legacy to know that our grandchildren would call Howard County Schools home because our schools will continue to be some of the best schools in the nation.