

COPPELL CHRONICLE

Coppell City Council Place 1

RAMESH PREMKUMAR



rpk4coppell.com

JIM WALKER



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What do you do for a living, and what does your spouse do?

I am a Small Business Owner (founder and CEO of Augur IT Inc., a Coppell-based Information technological firm), a day care co-owner, and a co-founder of technological start-ups. My wife has a Masters degree in child care education, but she chose to be a stay-at-home parent after the birth of our first kid. She used to be a high school volunteer and now fosters puppies.

I am a practicing lawyer in the area of complex commercial litigation with Cole Schotz P.C. and the managing partner of our Dallas office. Cherie just completed her 20th year as the “Cotillion Lady” in Coppell for the Jon D. Williams Cotillion, Colorado Springs, CO.

The position you’re seeking requires a lot of time and energy but provides no compensation. Why do you want it?

In Texas, cities are structured to encourage individuals to volunteer as leaders. My family and I have thoroughly enjoyed residing in Coppell and believe that serving on the City Council is an excellent way to

I want to serve a community that has always provided my family a wonderful quality of life. It is no secret that we are facing a difficult financial environment in all aspects of our lives. I have owned and managed

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| <p>give back to our community and make a beneficial impact. Contributing to the enhancement of Coppell's quality of life through meaningful participation would be an incredibly fulfilling and rewarding experience, making it a great incentive.</p> | <p>my own law firm (2001 – 2013) and am managing partner for my current firm's Dallas office (2013 to date) so I understand the pressures on businesses making payrolls, servicing customers/clients and paying taxes. Locally, I have almost 20 years of experience in city governance, and have attended nearly all city council meetings and budget workshops over the past four years. This experience will enable me to immediately contribute toward meeting our city's financial challenges, while maintaining our quality of life and all we have invested in our community.</p> |
| <p>When and why did you move to Coppell?</p> | |
| <p>In 2008, my family relocated to Coppell due to its exceptional schools. Moreover, we were drawn to its remarkable diversity and how it exudes an elegant atmosphere in comparison to neighboring cities.</p> | <p>Like so many others, we moved to Coppell in 1998 so that our two daughters could attend the schools here. Over the course of the past 24 years, we have also discovered a wonderful community "for a lifetime," as the phrase goes. We look forward to many more years as residents.</p> |
| <p>What are the biggest issues facing the city?</p> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childrens' safety, driven by the drug epidemic and school shootings. • Raising property taxes, which affects everyone, but especially seniors and neighbors on fixed income. | <p>Overall, our state government continues to usurp municipal authority and to deprive us of the ability to meaningfully engage in local governance. We have already experienced this in HB 2439 which took effect on September 1, 2019 and divested local zoning authority from</p> |

- Falling enrollment in our elementary schools, young families are unable to afford a Coppel home.

- \$20+ Million/Year reduction in City revenues, driven by SB 3.334.

- Coppel's restaurants and entertainment business are struggling meanwhile Coppel residents are spending our entertainment dollars in neighboring cities.

Coppel and other cities over the use of specific building materials in commercial and residential development.

This same tendency toward usurpation of local control is once again threatening our city on the issue of short term rentals. After considering several bills in 2019 that would have created a statewide preemption of local governments from regulating short-term rental properties, the Legislature is back in session and several bills following this lead are proposed. I believe short term rentals threaten the fabric of our sense of community and our fiscal health and should be resisted by every available legal means. We should oppose these bills and any other bills that seek to deprive home rule cities from exercising their right to self-governance. Our representatives in Austin should follow the dictum that ***"the best government is that which allows us to govern ourselves."*** Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe

Next, we need to remain vigilant on the fiscal front as we continue to adapt to 34 Texas Administrative Code, Section 3.334, and the dramatic change it has brought to our sales tax collections. The good news is that our Council and City Manager have

already reduced our expenditures to accommodate this abrupt change in sales tax collection that was unilaterally imposed by regulatory fiat out of the State Comptroller's office on January 3, 2020. Our law suit against Comptroller Hagar's office is set for trial in November 2023, and this will hopefully finally conclude so we may gain greater clarity about our future in sales tax collection.

Now that we are returning to relatively normal post-pandemic economic activity at all levels, we will have to carefully monitor our sales tax collections in relation to our inflating costs. Beginning in roughly 1990 and continuing forward through 2000 to date, our Councils and City Managers encouraged the development of light industrial commercial warehouses on our city's west side. This effort capitalized on our proximity to DFW Airport, made us more competitive in securing corporate warehousing relocations, and significantly diversified our city's tax base away from residential property taxes.

In the interest of enhancing our property and sales tax revenue, while lessening our reliance on residential property taxes, our city staff have recently started the process of working with industrial developers and our current industrial businesses

and property owners in our commercial/warehouse district to identify and, in turn, exploit trends such as larger warehouse sizes and the use of automated robotics systems to ensure we remain highly competitive in the light industrial commercial sector. As we strive to get ahead of the emerging trends in this important commercial warehousing space, I believe it is critically important for us to remain relevant in attracting and redeveloping our west side to ensure the continued diversification of our tax base and a strong revenue source from the commercial district of our city. We should also keep Section 3.334 in mind when targeting different businesses for recruitment to our west side and attempt to determine the volume of sales taxes their presence in Coppell will generate in relation to other relocation candidates. In this way, we can attempt to secure as much tax revenue from purchases the business makes that renders Coppell the “destination” of all such goods and purchases, and the recipient of all such related sales tax revenue under the new regime.

Finally, I believe we need to reinvigorate Old Town to attract more restaurants and retail/office development that will further

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| | <p>complement our thriving Farmer's Market. We have a pad site immediately east of Twisted Root Burgers that is dedicated to development of a restaurant and we have yet to attract such a restaurant to the area. This is a sure sign that we need to "kick start" our efforts in Old Town. We need to undertake a course of action to encourage further development of the area to create more foot traffic and a greater dynamic that will support our small businesses already there and better enable us to recruit and attract new small businesses that will better serve our residents and attract others to our community. Consistent with my proposal regarding recruiting businesses to our west side of town, sales tax and commercial property tax generated locally in Old Town will remain in Coppell and afford an important source of fiscal relief to our residential tax payers.</p> |
| <p>Why should voters choose you over your opponent?</p> | |
| <p>Fellow Coppell residents that know me, have described me as a listener, collaborator, problem solver, and uniter, qualities that I believe are essential for effective leadership. One of the key responsibilities of a city council member is to anticipate the future needs of the city and its citizens, and to make informed</p> | <p>I believe my experience in all aspects of Coppell governance is an important reason for our citizens to honor me with their votes. My experience over the past 20 years may be listed as follows: Commissioner, Coppell Planning & Zoning Commission (now in third term); Member, Coppell Economic Development Committee</p> |

decisions accordingly, in current times. With over 25 years of experience in predicting and evaluating business and municipal needs and challenges, I am confident in my ability to contribute to the long-term success of Coppell.

My education has prepared me to evaluate and prioritize competing needs effectively. I have more than 10 years of experience in job creation, expense management, payroll administration, and growing the local economy.

Furthermore, my global perspective and expertise in technology will enable me to provide valuable insights and guidance as we navigate the complexities of the modern world. Voters should kindly note that I am the only candidate that is talking about;

- Working with the city council to bring down your property tax burden
 - Identify the bottom 5% of city services and assess if their cost can be reduced using technology and automation.
 - Doubling your homestead exemption from 5% to 10%
 - Create small business incubator that; assists existing and new local businesses succeed;

(three terms); President, Coppell Economic Development Foundation (two terms); Coppell Special Counsel (three terms); Co-chair, Coppell ISD Bond Steering Committee; President, Coppell ISD Education Foundation (two terms); Member, Coppell ISD Bond Oversight Committee; Member, Coppell ISD 2009 Bond Committee; Co-chair, Coppell Beast Feast (five years); Coach, Coppell Cowgirls (U4 through U10) for Coppell Youth Soccer Association.

As I have attended the Council planning retreats, regular meetings and budget workshops over the past 4 years, I have realized that my experiences in all of these prior roles have well prepared me for the penultimate service to our community as a member of our City Council. Serving on Council is too important, and in many ways too complex, to spend the first two or three years engaged in on the job training. I am confident I am ready to contribute in a material way on my first day on Council if our residents will honor me with their votes. I want to thank them in advance for their consideration of my candidacy.

increases sales tax, and
decreases property taxes.

- Bring together our seniors and young families, generate ideas for addressing housing affordability.
- An hourly intra-city shuttle service that meets the needs of our senior citizens.

COPPELL CHRONICLE

Coppell ISD Board of Trustees Place 4

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| <p>SAMIT PATEL</p>  <p>samitpatelplace4.com</p> | <p>JONATHAN POWERS</p>  <p>powers4cisd.com</p> | <p>RANNA RAVAL</p>  <p>rannaraval4cisd.com</p> |
| <p>What do you do for a living, and what does your spouse do?</p> | | |
| <p>I am a landscape architect. My wife is a business professional.</p> | <p>I'm an attorney for McKool Smith where I handle commercial litigation matters for a wide variety of clients, and my wife is a software developer for Slack.</p> | <p>I have a degree in Electrical engineering, I chose to be an educator. I am currently pursuing a Master's degree in Educational Leadership. My husband is an IT professional.</p> |
| <p>The position you're seeking requires a lot of time and energy but provides no compensation. Why do you want it?</p> | | |
| <p>Short answer: I'm still wondering that. ;-) Correct answer: I have always been a proponent of being involved locally. I have been involved in our community since before we moved here. Since</p> | <p>I want this job because I want to contribute to Coppell ISD's success moving forward. We have one of the best school districts in Texas thanks to the hard work of thousands of teachers, staff, parents,</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My professional and volunteering track record demonstrates that I have always found value in intrinsic rewards. I tend to seek out meaningful, challenging, and fulfilling opportunities. |

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| <p>moving here I have found different ways to be involved. Ultimately, I want to serve our community. After being part of many committees with the District and the Chamber and representing the community, it just felt like running for office was the next natural progression. Although I still have a lot to learn, I have already learned a lot. I want to use that knowledge to help guide our District and our community forward.</p> | <p>and volunteers over the years. But we cannot take our success for granted. Every day our state legislature is making it more and more difficult for us to provide the same level of education and programs for our kids. Whether it's "Robin Hood" or providing vouchers for private and charter schools, our state officials are continuously implementing or considering policies that are bad for public school districts like ours.</p> <p>Ultimately, I'm trained as an advocate. It's what I do every single day in my job: I use my voice and my words and my reasoning to fight for my clients. I'm prepared to defend our kids and Coppell ISD locally as well as in Austin. I believe I have unique skills that enable me to be the passionate champion that Coppell ISD needs.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My passion for high-quality public education – As an educator and a current student pursuing a Master's in Educational Leadership, I believe in high-quality public education that is accessible to all children. I believe "schools are people". It is us as a community of children, families, teachers, and administrators who make Coppell ISD the most sought-after school district. To be able to volunteer at a school board level would be a privilege and a way of giving back to this community. • Community Involvement – After 14 years of volunteering at five campuses and within the district, the knowledge, skills, and interactions I have gained are invaluable and have prepared me to take the next step. • My experiences – My children's experiences |
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| | | are my inspiration. I would be honored to have an opportunity to serve this community. |
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| When and why did you move to Coppell ISD? | | |
| <p>We choose to move to Coppell in 2007. We made our first offer in October of 2007. We struggled to sell our old house from 2008-20013; Silver lining in not landing that first house. Finally, December 2013 we sold our old house. And in March of 2014, we bought our Coppell house did a quick renovation and moved in May. We choose CISD for the same reason that nearly everyone moved here for: the exceptional school district and wonderful community. I want to do my part to make sure that we maintain it and are able to pass it on to the next folks that will also come for the same reasons.</p> | <p>I moved to Coppell in 2021 after having lived in Valley Ranch for 5 years and having grown up in Grapevine. Like most people in Coppell, we moved here for the schools. If elected I will work to ensure that families continue saying that for years to come.</p> | <p>Our family moved to Coppell ISD in 2009 because of the reviews we got about the quality of education and overall quality of life.</p> |

What are the biggest issues facing the school district?

Teacher retention and attracting high level teachers is paramount in our District's ability to provide the best education. The easy answer may seem to be higher pay. Unfortunately it's not that simple. Although CISD pay is highly competitive, there are other Districts that do pay more. But our teachers are not running to those Districts. And those Districts have difficulties in attracting teachers. Why? None of those other Districts have what we have: our community. We have a community that supports our teachers better than anyone. It is this positive environment that motivates our teachers to stay here. We need to continue to foster an environment where our teachers get the support they need from our community; maintaining

The three biggest issues for CISD are navigating state constraints to provide for our teachers, planning for flat or declining enrollment, and fiscal transparency. Here's how I plan to address each:

Navigating state constraints to provide for our teachers – so much of what we do in Coppell ISD starts with decisions made in Austin. So first and foremost, I will continue to advocate for Coppell ISD with our state legislators. But regardless of the decisions those legislators make, we must continue doing everything we can to compensate our teachers as highly as our budget allows. But given our financial constraints, we must also work to provide attractive benefits and non-monetary perks too. We

- Teacher Recruitment, Retention
- School Safety and Security, Substance Abuse Awareness
- Mental Health for students and teachers
- Learning Loss

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| <p>relationships with the Chamber of Commerce; partnering with the Education Foundation and PTO's. We need to continue to explore more ways we can support and celebrate our amazing teachers. We need to also engage our teachers in open dialog to better understand what else makes them choose to stay in our District. We also need to understand what tempts them to consider leaving; what do they value and how can we help meet that need. We need to hear from their peers in other Districts and understand why they stay there. Teachers are the foundation of our education. If we invest in our teachers; we invest in our kids.</p> | <p>can do that by providing leadership opportunities, professional development training, and trying to help solve work-life balance challenges. Our culture is important too.</p> <p>Flat or declining enrollment – Due to rising home prices, the demographics of Coppell are shifting. Fewer families with young children are moving to the area, which the district projects will soon cause flat or declining enrollment numbers. As a result of these projected changes, the district's considering various options, including opening enrollment in Coppell ISD to neighboring areas or potentially closing one of the district's elementary schools. Between these options, if the projections of declining enrollment come to fruition, I'd favor limited open</p> | |
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| | <p>enrollment to neighboring communities because it would allow the district to receive additional tax money from each family that chooses to send their children to Coppell ISD. But regardless, I believe decisions of this magnitude require community input. They're too important to be made by seven people, particularly when so many of our current trustees no longer have children in the district. So one of my first actions as a trustee would be to request the creation of a visioning committee for our district's elementary schools so that the entire Coppell ISD community can be involved in whatever decisions we must make as a result of potential changes in our enrollment numbers.</p> <p>Fiscal transparency – In communications to the community, Coppell ISD frequently laments its</p> | |
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| | <p>“budget deficit” and even incorrectly tells the community things like, “we cannot continue to spend more than our revenue.” But the district has never spent more than it has received. Despite projecting a deficit in eight out of the past ten years, every year Coppell ISD has ultimately received more money than it spent. So I also intend to increase the district’s financial transparency so that our community is well-informed and can weigh in on the issues facing the district.</p> | |
| <p>Why should voters choose you over your opponent(s)?</p> | | |
| <p>One thing I will say, we are blessed to have an amazing group of candidates to choose from. CISD will be in good hands no matter who you choose. Unlike my opponents, I have served our entire community: through the Chamber of Commerce; in District level</p> | <p>For three reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As a trial lawyer, I will be an effective advocate for our school district and our kids. 2. I have a vested interest in the future of our school district. My kids are just getting started in our schools, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public schools are intricate systems involving a variety of stakeholders. It is a challenge to keep the budget and vision aligned and viable. As an educator and a learner pursuing a Master’s degree in Educational |

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| <p>committees; in the Education Foundation; in coaching youth sports. When I take the oath as a Trustee, I instantly adopt all 13,000-plus kids and their families. Their success will be my motivation.</p> | <p>and so are dozens of my friends' kids. In contrast, both of my opponents' children have either already graduated or will by the end of the three-year term. Samit and Ranna are both kind, thoughtful people, and I have no doubt that they will make decisions that they believe are best for Coppell ISD if they're elected. But incentives change when your kids aren't affected by your decisions. In contrast, I will work tirelessly to ensure we're doing everything we can to make Coppell ISD the best school district possible.</p> <p>3. As a relative newcomer to Coppell ISD, I have a different perspective than my opponents and our current board members. In Coppell, there's a well-worn path to joining the school board. First, you join the PTO. A few years later, you take on a leadership role in the PTO. Then a</p> | <p>Leadership, I bring that understanding of the school system and a perspective to the current board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I stand for comprehensive Educational Policies that bring value to our public education. This includes adopting policies that serve the entire student population and create a strong, safe learning environment for all students, and, at all campuses. In addition to broad policies that serve the entire population, also creating programs that help individual groups thrive. These groups include special education, CTE, fine arts, and athletics. I believe these strategies will help create an environment that attracts and retains high-quality teachers. • Community collaboration is my strength. Coppell ISD community has been our village, our home |
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| | <p>few years after that, you take iLead training. Eventually you join the Ed Foundation board. Then, finally, you're ready to run. That's the pathway my opponents have taken, and the pathway that every returning board member has taken. It's a good path, and I'd be glad if most trustees had taken it. But it's a problem when every trustee (and my opponents) has taken it. To make effective decisions, boards need diverse perspectives. Our current board has lost some diversity of thought because, by the time trustees join the board, they are good friends with our administrators and others within the district. It can be hard to ask tough questions of your friends. But sometimes tough questions need to be asked. Or things that seem normal to someone who has been around it for years,</p> | <p>away from home. As an involved community member, I see that we have built something good here at CISD. I am here to take that further for our future generations by volunteering my time and experience.</p> |
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| | seem incredibly strange to an outsider. I'll bring a different viewpoint from our current board members and that's valuable. | |
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COPPELL CHRONICLE

Coppell ISD Board of Trustees Place 5

DAVID CAVINESS



davidcaviness.com

JULIE WATERS



voteforjuliewaters.com

What do you do for a living, and what does your spouse do?

I am a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional and founder of Caviness Wealth Management, LLC. I provide comprehensive wealth management to individuals and families.

My wife, Jessica, is an educator of 23 years. She is a 2015 recipient of the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching and holds a Master's in Educational Leadership.

I am an attorney and the founder/executive director of a nonprofit that rescues teen sex trafficking victims and helps them to rebuild their lives. I work closely with multiple law enforcement agencies to coordinate the rescue of teenaged sex trafficking victims, including the FBI, Houston Police Department, Dallas Police Department, Harris County Sheriff's Office, and Colleyville Police Department. After they rescue the girl, I help rebuild her life by providing mentoring, groceries, tutoring, job training, Christmas/birthday presents, and more.

My husband worked in oil and gas for over 15 years before switching to a tech company. We decided not to

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| | <p>move when Exxon relocated its headquarters out of Las Colinas because we loved living in Coppell and wanted to remain in CISD schools.</p> |
| <p>The position you're seeking requires a lot of time and energy but provides no compensation. Why do you want it?</p> | |
| <p>Serving the community I live in is a core value of mine, and I am grateful for the opportunities I have to give back to Coppell and Coppell ISD. I've been active, engaged, and involved in our community over the past 18 years, and that experience led me to run for the board in 2017. I'm running for re-election because I want to ensure that our kids attending today and those attending in the future have the same opportunities and receive the same high-quality education that Coppell ISD is known for.</p> | <p>My passion is serving youth. I first worked with abused and neglected children in CPS as an attorney. Then, I started my nonprofit focused on teenagers caught up in sex trafficking. My entire career has been dedicated to children who have no voice. And I have seen the difference that education makes. A good education is key to breaking generational poverty and abuse. A good education is the foundation for many career pathways. My heart for children and my belief in the importance of education motivates me to run for the school board.</p> <p>I have three children, ages 4 to 8 years old. We will be in Coppell schools for the next 14 years. I have been very involved in the PTO and started the UIL Academics program at our school. I coached second and third-graders in public speaking, classical music, and creative writing. Seeing these young minds grow in areas that even intimidate adults is impressive. I am now expanding UIL Academics to other elementary schools in Coppell. I am invested in</p> |

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| | <p>CISD schools and want the best for all CISD students.</p> <p>As an attorney who has rescued teen sex trafficking victims for over a decade, I have trained and mobilized thousands of people to combat trafficking, leading to public policy changes. I have also initiated and executed large-scale projects through the nonprofit I started. I can bring my leadership abilities, advocacy skills, and vision to CISD.</p> <p>I am driven and hard-working. I have visited over 3000 homes in Coppell during this campaign and knocked on doors. I have spoken to many wonderful people. I will bring this same drive and enthusiasm to the job of school board trustee. I am a learner; I will dive deep into issues to make the best possible decision. My heart is for serving others, and I will work relentlessly for our children.</p> <p>To learn more about me, please visit my website: www.VoteforJulieWaters.com. Just add Waters!</p> |
| <p>When and why did you move to Coppell ISD?</p> | |
| <p>Jessica and I moved to Coppell when we married in 2005 so that when we started our family, our kids would attend school in Coppell ISD. We've</p> | <p>After we married in 2005, we moved to Valley Ranch, and my husband worked for Exxon. Even though we didn't have kids, we quickly learned about the reputation of Coppell ISD</p> |

now been parents in the district for the past 11 years.

schools. Exxon then moved us to Houston, where we lived for over ten years, then to Dubai for two years, and lastly to Coppell. We moved to Coppell amid Covid during the summer of 2020. Exxon had moved my husband from overseas to Las Colinas. We knew immediately we wanted to live in Coppell. Coppell ISD is our forever home. My husband left his career at Exxon so that we could remain in here. We will be in Coppell schools for the next 14 years.

What are the biggest issues facing the school district?

There is a significant shortage of teachers nationwide, and attracting and retaining high-quality teachers has become a major challenge. Compounding this issue is the additional workload teachers bear as we work to recover from the pandemic and close the gaps due to learning loss. Working through those challenges requires extra time and resources, forcing the district to do more with less, as state funding has yet to keep pace with inflation.

First, funding is a significant issue that the district is facing. 26% of CISD's budget goes to recapture, also known as Robin Hood. This year more than \$46 million of Coppell's taxpayer funds were sent to the state and went into the state's general fund. We need to keep more of our money in our district. Due to projected budget deficits, cuts have been made that negatively impact our teachers and learners.

We must focus our efforts on the state legislature to address the funding. We need massive community involvement if we want changes regarding the financing of public schools. As a nonprofit leader, I have mobilized thousands of people and gotten them to engage with their elected officials, which led to changes

in public policy. I can bring these same skills to the area of school funding, a place where the community must rally and join forces to make a difference. No one on the board has this depth of advocacy experience, which is needed.

Second, we are facing a significant teacher shortage in Coppell and statewide. To understand why, I have spent over 40 hours interviewing 25 teachers who recently left CISD or are still currently teaching. The reasons why they are going vary from being overworked, not enough pay, changes brought on due to COVID, and lack of maternity leave, amongst other things. Also, to prepare for serving on the school board, I began to substitute teach at the elementary, middle, and high schools. I want first-hand knowledge of what our teachers and learners experience daily.

Here are some changes that I would like to see implemented to retain our teachers:

- Learn from nearby districts that have subsidized daycare for teachers.
- Fight for higher teacher pay at the state legislative level.
- Encourage willing parent and community volunteers to give teachers extra planning time during recess and lunch.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better support principals who are doing everything they can for their teachers. • Create a culture where teachers and all staff feel safe voicing their opinions. |
| Why should voters choose you over your opponent? | |
| <p>My 18-year history of involvement within our schools and community has provided me with the experience and knowledge necessary to understand the complex issues facing Coppell ISD and the insight to navigate an ever-changing landscape.</p> <p>Being a Parent, spouse to an educator, and a business owner, have given me a unique perspective serving on the board over the past six years, keeping our students, teachers, and families top of mind.</p> <p>I have forged a great working relationship with my fellow Trustees, Superintendent, and administrative staff. Under my leadership as Board President, we have worked together to create board priorities that will guide the district over the next few years. Knowing that the students and teachers in our district are the priority allows us to face tough decisions together, ensuring that our kids have the same opportunities, and receive the same high-quality education</p> | <p>I strongly support advanced academics and Coppell ISD's fantastic choices, like project and challenged-based learning, New Tech, dual language, and IB. I will never waiver on supporting fine arts programs. I have attended many events and seen our learners' talent and passion for creating, performing, and excelling. I'm naturally curious and have learned so much more about the benefits of these programs in creating life skills. Other programs I will support are opportunities where kids can learn authentically such as CTE, student journalism, debate, school gardening, robotics, etc.</p> <p>I will support kids and teachers, not just my kids or friends. Just like all students are not the same, all teachers are not the same. Kids need to be engaged so they can learn. The most important people for kids on the staff are our campus educators. I want CISD to be a destination district for teachers. Teachers need our</p> |

that Coppell ISD is known for.

There is still more work to do. I have a proven track record of working collaboratively with our board, district administration, and community to continue the work and accomplish our priorities.

support and strong board members that prioritize this.

I am a visionary and expect Coppell ISD to be a visionary school district. Nothing stays the same. We have been, but we must do better to ensure all of our children get the opportunities and experiences they need to succeed in school and beyond. I am a reader and learner. We need board members that read and are engaged in education advocacy. Forces are working against us, like recapture, the state legislature, and the teacher shortage problem. We must understand what is going on and what is possible by listening and working with teachers, parents, and the community for the good of our kids and their future.

Just add Waters!

COPPELL CHRONICLE

Coppell ISD Board of Trustees Place 7

JOBBY MATHEW



facebook.com/jobby4cisd

What do you do for a living, and what does your spouse do?

I am an attorney with over 12 years of experience in litigation, negotiating high dollar commercial technology transactions, and strategic planning. My wife is an Assistant Principal in Lewisville ISD and has over 19 years of experience as a public educator as an elementary classroom teacher and GT facilitator.

The position you're seeking requires a lot of time and energy but provides no compensation. Why do you want it?

Aside from being a glutton for stress? :) Jokes aside, there are two main reasons I wanted to serve on the Board of Trustees. First, I was inspired by supporting my wife's 19 year career as a public school educator. Helping her get her classroom ready every summer, meeting her students, and hearing the challenges she and her fellow teachers have, and will, face was a huge motivator. As a CISD Board member, I can help the teachers and students in CISD and help foster a positive learning environment in this district. Secondly, given my experience as an active volunteer in this community and as a legal professional, I wanted to continue to serve CISD in this new capacity, be a part of the district's future, continue its great tradition of a high quality public education, and help the district grow to new heights. Underpinning these reasons, is that my wife and I try to instill in our kids the need to serve and

show them that by serving others you will help yourself and make the community stronger.

When and why did you move to Coppell ISD?

In 2017. For the schools and location.

What are the biggest issues facing the school district?

Being able to maintain efficient district operations and build the educational programs we need to prepare our learners for the future with limited financial resources all while rewarding and retaining teachers.

Why should voters choose you over your opponent?

As my election was unopposed, I'm looking forward to continuing to serve the CISD community as the now declared elected Place 7 Trustee. Like all Trustees, this seat belongs to Coppell ISD and it has been, and will continue to be, an honor and a privilege to serve this community. That said, I hope that the CISD community sees that in my service I will continue to be a trusted advisor to the district, with my primary advice being to treat CISD's budget and performance as a business with our primary product being the quality of a CISD education. If this is the goal, every financial decision for salaries, resources, and facilities will be tailored to achieve the highest quality education for our children in CISD. Additionally, I hope I am demonstrating that my advice to the district on community feedback and performance encourages the district (and community at large) to treat everyone with respect, assume positive intent, and use a fact-based approach to all decisions.