

# Candidate Qualification / Position Statement For *Coalition for a Better Memphis* Website

The CBM will post your completed statement on our website, [www.bettermemphis.org](http://www.bettermemphis.org), exactly as it is submitted. It is important that your information be complete – please use extra space if needed and feel free to attach a resume or any supplemental information. Please email the Statement to [peggy@bettermemphis.org](mailto:peggy@bettermemphis.org) by September 8.

Name: Stephanie Gatewood \_\_\_\_\_

Website: [www.stephaniegatewood.com](http://www.stephaniegatewood.com) \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate for: Memphis City School Board district 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you believe you are qualified to run for this position? I am employed in Educational policy, and have served on this body for the past 4 years, I have been effective as a board member, asking the correct questions, making policy and participating in the governance team. \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Three specific things you would like to accomplish if elected: continue to set policy to drive the district forward as related to student achievement, safety amongst our schools, and collaboration in the community. \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Have you ever been delinquent on your property taxes? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  \_\_\_\_\_

Have you filed for Bankruptcy? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Explanation of any of the above items \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

List other elected positions you have run for and the outcome of the election:

City Council District 1- a run-off election ensued as a result of the crowded field. I was unsuccessful \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Employment**

Company: University of Memphis \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Employment: 4.5 years \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Job Description: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Education**

Please list all schools you have attended from High School on.

School                      Degree                                      Graduation Date

Southwest Community College Summer 2007 AS Public Administration \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Additional information as it regards to education: \_\_\_\_\_

I have am working on my level 5 Boardmanship award, which is the highest level a board member can achieve. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How long have you lived in Memphis? Since 1989 \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you grow up? Around the Country. My father served as active duty military

Marital Status/Children: Single/ 2 Children \_\_\_\_\_

Please identify up to five organizations that are actively supporting your candidacy.

1. None identified as of yet \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your association memberships and identify any leadership positions you have held in the past.

1. see next question \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your civic and community memberships.

1. Bellevue Baptist Church- Youth Fellowship leader
2. Council of Great City Schools Board of Directors
3. Council of Urban Boards of Education- Task force for Student Achievement
4. League of Women Voters- Education Director
5. Children and Adults Add/ADHD coordinator \_\_\_\_\_
6. Board of Directors Raleigh Community Council \_\_\_\_\_

7. Impact Ministries volunteer/ Food Pantry \_\_\_\_\_

8. Elected Member Memphis City School Board \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

Other Contact Information:

Campaign Chair: Stevie Moore \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer: Stephanie Jackson \_\_\_\_\_

Any other information you would like to share with the voters:

I have remained grass roots since my election to the Memphis City School Board in 2004. I have remained level headed, research based decision making is how I attempt to make decisions. We have been selected as a board to participate in the Reform Governance in Action program from the Broad Institute, this is by invitation only- These are the steps in becoming a successful, professional board. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



*The following scenario was developed by the Center for Ethical Leadership at Christian Brothers University. It is designed to determine how you process information and make decisions. There is no right or wrong answer.*

**Lost File – Ethical Dilemma Pitting Individual versus Community**

You have been involved in a very tight election, opposing a very popular incumbent. About two weeks prior to election day, the local newspaper runs a very negative article about your opponent and some “shady” dealings occurring during his tenure in office. Although the allegations do not point to any illegal activity, the reporter does imply that a particular financial transaction shows questionable decision making.

Your opponent denies the allegations and insists the transaction is above board. He claims he cannot locate the files associated with this particular incident and, therefore, cannot defend

his actions with anything other than his honor, reputation, and good name. The press continues to have a field day over this issue, tearing up your opponent and leaving you in the enviable position of not having to comment on the situation.

You win the election by a surprisingly large margin. Exit polls show it was your opponent's inability to produce evidence proving there was no wrongdoing that swayed voters your way. Your opponent walks away from the election not only defeated at the polls but also in public opinion and reputation.

About three months into your new position you are working on a case that causes you to rummage through some of your predecessor's old files. There you find the "smoking gun"... the evidence that clears your opponent of any wrongdoing. You are unsure if the information was accidentally or intentionally misfiled.

- (1) What will you do with this information?
- (2) Will you consult anyone before deciding what to do? If so, whom?
- (3) When making your decision about what to do, whose needs did you consider?
- (4) Was this an easy decision for you to make? If not, what were some of the issues that went through your mind that caused conflict?

- 1) first I would call the opponent and share with them my findings, I would then contact the media to try to clear the air.
- 2) I would not consult anyone, as I know in my heart that is the right thing to do. I would want someone to do the same for me.
- 3) I considered the need of the opponent, and the desire to make it right with the public, although I had nothing to do with the initial information, if I found information that was contradicting, I would have to report it.
- 4) Yes, I was taught to treat people better than they would treat you, in hopes that they would treat you half as good.

Optional – Attach a resume.

Please email the completed Statement and any additional information to:  
[peggy@bettermemphis.org](mailto:peggy@bettermemphis.org) by June 6, 2008.