

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

Name: Dr. Snowden "Butch" Carruthers  
Website: doconboard-carruthers.com(Up, but not complete)  
Candidate for: District 1 Shelby County board of Education

Why do you believe you are qualified for this position?

I am a career educator with 40 years in the Shelby County Schools. In those 40 years I served as an administrator for 34 years. During my tenure as an administrator I have either faced or been affected by many of the issues facing the current Board of Education. I am sure that my opponent and I would agree on many of the issues facing our schools, but I have dealt with these issues, or the by-products of these issues, on a daily basis. I have learned through these experiences to be a listener, a problem solver, a motivator, and in many cases the voice of compromise.

Name three specific things you would like to accomplish if elected:

1. I would like to see the funding issues settled once and for all time, so that the school system will not have to beg and plead for funds to take care of the students of Shelby County. Whether this be Special School District, Single Source Funding, or Special Taxing Authority, I am not completely sure of the method, but I would like to be a part of settling this issue.
2. I would like input into School Boundary Changes which will be studied this coming year and put into effect in the 2011-12 school year. I feel my experience with this issue and my knowledge of Shelby County can be of tremendous service.
3. I would like to see that updates/upgrades to existing facilities are made to allow students in older schools to be proud of their school and to help them compete with students in new school facilities.

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

Have you declared bankruptcy? Yes No X

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No X

If you answered "yes" on any of the above items, please list the year and provide details. -

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

None – First Race

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### **Current Employment**

Company: Retired-Shelby County Board of Education

Length of Employment: 40 Years

Brief Job Description: Teacher(4 years), Elementary Principal(3 years), High School Assistant Principal(2 years), Middle School Principal(4 years), High School Principal (25 years). During the last twenty years our school grew from 350 to 2,460 students and was the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest school in Tennessee. Full time Graduate Student(2 years)

### **Education**

Please list all college/advanced degrees attained.

<u>College/University</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Graduation Year</u>
<u>Bethel College</u>	<u>B.S. (Business Administration)</u>	<u>1964</u>
<u>The University of Tennessee(Knoxville)</u>	<u>M.S. (Educational Administration)</u>	<u>1969</u>
<u>The University of Tennessee(Knoxville)</u>	<u>Ed.D.(Curriculum &amp; Instruction)</u>	<u>1977</u>

Collateral Area: (Vocational & Technical Education)

Additional Information relating to your educational background (optional):

I Accumulated 80 + graduate hours at the UT/MSU Memphis Center before returning to Knoxville for the residential Doctoral Program. I was selected for a special Masters Degree program called "Change Agents for Appalachia". This program required a commitment from your school system to place the participant in an administrative position upon completion of the program. This program offered the candidate new innovative experiences not typically found in graduate programs at that time.

How long have you lived in Memphis? 67 years

Where did you grow up? Bolton Area of North Shelby County

Marital status/children: Married 42 years to Alice(retired teacher)/No Children

Please identify up to five organizations that are actively supporting your candidacy and provide a contact (with phone number) for each.

1. None at this point, but I have been promised endorsements after the primaries are over.

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

1. Shelby County High School Principals (Chairman 2003-05)
2. Shelby County Elementary School Principals (Chairman 1979-80)
3. National Association of Secondary School Principals (1980-2005)
4. Tennessee Association of Secondary School Principals (1970-1980)
5. P.T.A. Life Membership (1973)
6. P.T.A. National Life Member (2005)
7. Tennessee Secondary Schools Athletic Association (Financial Aide Committee)
8. Shelby County Education Association (1965-2005)
9. Tennessee and National Education Associations (1965-2005)
10. Northwest Shelby County Republican Club

Please list up to 10 current or past civic/community memberships.

1. Millington YMCA Board of Directors
2. Bolton College Trustees (Manages Bolton Trust)
3. Old Florida Village Board of Directors (Secretary) Santa Rosa Beach, Florida
4. Former Chairman of Deacons (Brunswick Baptist Church)
5. Shalom Project for North Shelby County

Other Contact Information:

Campaign Chair: Self

Treasurer: Kenneth D. Harrell

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

In 2002 I was chosen as one of six finalists for the Shelby County Schools Superintendent. This selection of the six finalists was made by the Tennessee School Boards Association.