

Three vie for seat in Boring

Money and management issues are on the minds of the three candidates running for Position 3 on the Boring School District board.

The candidates are Donald Morrison, 8742 S.E. Kingswood Way, Gresham; Dave Rodman, 8800 S.E. Kingswood Way, Gresham; and Steven Sobella, of 15711 S.E. 312th Ave., Boring. The school board seat was vacated by Gale Meier, who resigned in January.

Donald Morrison
Morrison, 49, is serving his third year on the Boring School District budget committee. A self-employed mechanical engineer, he is running for the school board because "a quality school system is very important to me as a parent," he said. His two children attend Boring schools.

Morrison said the passage of the proposed two-year serial levy in the March election is the most important issue facing the district at this time.

"It is important that those involved in establishing the 1986-87 budget do whatever they can during the next four weeks to convince the voters of the district that the requested amount is reasonable and responsible and deserves their support," he said.

Morrison supports the Legislature's safety-net proposal "as a beginning" to remove the threat of local school closures.

Ultimately, there needs to be a state program established that will "mandate a viable new tax base" for each school district and require a reasonable and consistent level of state support for each district.

"I also believe that a significant portion of school financing, say 50 percent, should be retained at the local level, through the tax base and property tax system, to allow local control of the ultimate level of school support," he said.

Voters should be made aware that the dwindling level of state school support and the decrease in federal funds for federally mandated programs have caused the Boring tax base to become inadequate, Morrison said.

Dave Rodman
Rodman, 42, said he would concentrate his efforts on "achieving prudent and effective management" of the district if he is elected to the school board. His goal would be to offer the district's students "a fine education within the limits of reasonable public policy."

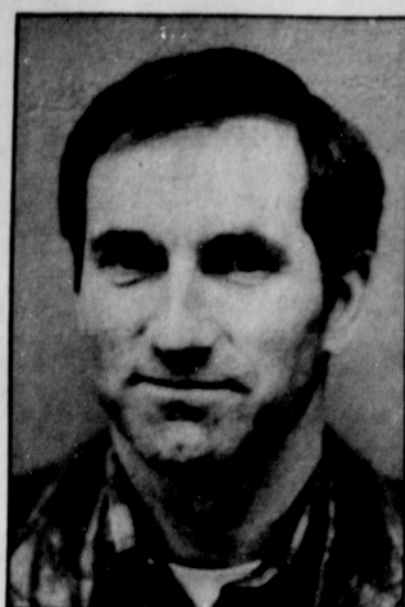
A school board is obliged by public law and public trust to operate schools "wisely and properly," Rodman said. Residents of the districts are obliged through taxation to provide the necessary operating money.



Steven Sobella



Dave Rodman



Donald Morrison

The fact that the two obligations are interwoven should not be overlooked, he said.

Rodman, a self-employed microcomputer systems consultant, said he would bring to the board skills in financial analysis, problem solving, group dynamics, information systems and performance evaluation.

District residents need to evaluate the current performance of school management for "shortcomings" that "cause the effectiveness of a school's teaching, support and administrative staff to be unfortunately and unnecessarily diminished," he said.

Issues such as repeated levy requests, increased budgets, health policies, curriculum changes, athletic policies and teacher-administration salary "confrontations" receive residents' attention as events occur, Rodman said.

"While administrators' actions and residents' interest and response are necessary and desired when suited to the specifics of the current condition, it is disappointing that the underlying cause of such conditions can often be traced to dissatisfaction with school leadership and management," he said.

Steven Sobella
Sobella, 33, is a school board candidate because of his concern about the "complex" problems the district faces, he said.

"It is time (to) become more directly involved" in school district matters, Sobella said.

"I have been self-employed since 1972 (and) I have great understanding of fiscal management and its

responsibility," he said.

A wholesale nursery grower, Sobella said property taxes are "out of hand." The board must have members who have the interests of the whole community "at heart," who have the ability to work well with the existing board to solve problems and who can make "well-balanced" decisions.

Financing the school system is the district's biggest problem, Sobella said. Right now, decisions generally revolve around the district's finances, he said.

"It bothers me that the board's got a gun to its head all the time. I don't think it's fair to the board," he said.

Tax levy increases are not the only answer because "they're so short-lived," he said. Taxpayers feel betrayed when they approve a levy and then find themselves voting again on another money measure in "six to 18 months."

"Any increase has to be justified," he said.

When making decisions, board members must weigh what is most important for Boring until "better state finance" can help the district and lessen the tax burden on property owners, Sobella said.

"In the last 10 to 15 years, it seems most of the burden or heavy load is on the property owners' back," Sobella said. "I feel we as citizens need to lobby and pressure the lawmakers and governor into more tax relief and less financial burden on the homeowners for school finance."

Editor's note: The above story was taken from written comments supplied by the candidates.

Brooks College accepts Quintero

Ann Marie Quintero, daughter of Richard Quintero of Boring, has been accepted as a student for the fashion program at Brooks College, Calif. She will enter the program in September.



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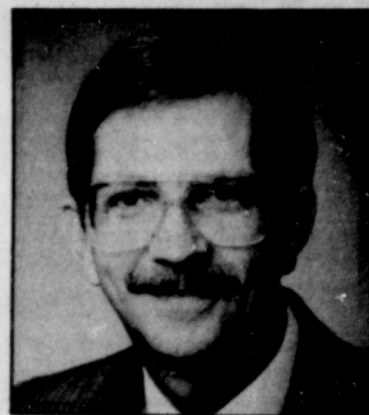
Almost every American family has automobile accident insurance coverage (in some states called no-fault insurance). This type of insurance includes a section called medical expense benefits under which chiropractic services are covered. In no-fault states, this is sometimes called PIP benefits (personal injury protection). The medical expense or personal injury benefits are formulated to help the injured parties receive immediate and necessary medical or chiropractic care and not have to worry about the expenses involved.

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