

# Westerville Chamber of Commerce

## Candidate Questionnaire – Westerville Board of Education

**Candidate: John Sodt**



**Education:** : M.S. Business Management, University of Arkansas, B.S. Business Administration, Capital University

**Campaign Website:** [www.forResponsibleChange.com](http://www.forResponsibleChange.com)

### Qualifications:

Thirty-five (35) years business experience with large companies and government organizations such as the U.S. Air force, Borden Inc., Edmont Glove Company, and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

My experience includes Financial Management (15 yrs.), Personnel Management (15 yrs.), Project Management (10 yrs.), and Computer Program Development (8 yrs.).

### My platform is:

I will work for the students and taxpayers of the district by bringing my budgeting, financial management, and personnel management experience to the district to give the students the top financial priority. I will work to implement a Students First Management approach that prioritizes district spending with students as the number one priority. This change alone will allow Westerville residents to see how their money is being invested and how it benefits the students by eliminating student course and service reductions along with the corresponding teacher layoffs in times of financial stress.

I will also work to establish specific measureable goals for the district administration in the areas of student achievement. With a nearly 40% college bound remediation rate and all three high schools having been identified by the State as needing improvement, more attention needs to be paid to the districts' academic performance measurements. As a board member, I will maintain the spotlight on district performance and count on the administration to make improvements with my full support.

I decided to run for the Board of Education after getting to know Jim Burgess and Luke Davis. The three of us have similar goals for the district and a willingness to work toward putting them into action. Together, our three seats on the board will enable us to effect the changes necessary to improve the quality of education for Westerville students while managing the finances of the district on behalf of the taxpayers in a transparent and responsible manner.

For additional information about our combined campaign, refer to our website at [www.ForResponsibleChange.com](http://www.ForResponsibleChange.com)