

**Dr. SIVA PILLI**

**How long have you lived in Prosper?**

Since 2018

**Do you currently have children attending Prosper ISD schools?**

Yes, class of 2026 (currently at Rock Hill) and Class of 2028 (currently at Hays)

**Do you have children who graduated from Prosper ISD?**

No

**What is your history of involvement in the district/community?**

I volunteer at several local, national, and international organizations like American Society of Mechanical Engineers, National Society of Professional Engineers, Society for Experimental Mechanics, Math Counts, etc. At these organizations, I served in various leadership roles including: i) Board Member of National Society of Professional Engineers in Private Practice - Young Engineer's Advisory Council, ii) Vice President and Secretary of National Society of Professional Engineers local chapter in Washington State, iii) Division Chair (2014 - 2015) & Vice Chair (2011 - 2103) of the American Society of Mechanical Engineer's Management Division. Management Division is one of the largest technical divisions with approximately 9000 engineers from around the world. Other positions include Student & Early Career Development Council member, Johnson & Johnson Consumer Companies, Inc. Medal Committee, Columbia Basin Section Vice-Chair/Treasurer, etc. iv) Math Counts Volunteer Leader.

**Why are you running for school board?**

I strongly believe that a good public education is important as it imparts knowledge from one generation to another generation and builds our society. The importance of education is best driven by the following Chinese proverb:

"If you want to think one year ahead, plant rice  
If you want to think 10 years ahead, plant trees  
But if you want to think 100 years ahead, give education to people."

As a resident of this community and a parent with children in the school system, I understand the importance of a high-quality education and the role that the school board plays in providing it. As a school board member, I promise to prioritize the needs of our students, teachers, and community. Here are some of my goals for our school district:

- Academic Excellence - I will work to enhance academic programs to ensure that our students receive the best possible education, and to prepare them for future success.
- Transparency and accountability: I will seek to improve communication to promote transparency and accountability while ensuring that community members are informed and engaged in important decision-making processes that impact the district.
- Fiscal Responsibility - I will work towards ensuring that the school district's finances are managed responsibly, and that resources are allocated in a manner that best serves our students' needs.
- Facilities - I will work to improve our school facilities and infrastructure, including the development of new facilities where necessary, to provide a supportive and safe learning environment for all students, which will include the provision of mental health resources and support to students.
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**In your opinion, what is the most important decision facing the district today? How would you address it?**

As mentioned in the following question we all know that prosper is one of the fast-growing districts. Keeping up with the needs of this fast-growing student population, which is more diverse than before, will be a priority. For addressing the growth issue, in the short-term, I would work on teacher retention along with hiring additional teachers and staff to make sure that the student: teacher ratio is not too high! I will also work on the development of new facilities where necessary. In the long term, I will start with developing/updating the Prosper ISD strategic plan so that we can manage this growth in a better way.

There is also some possible loss of trust in the district communication with the recent heartbreaking events/news. To address this issue, I will seek to improve communication to promote transparency and accountability while ensuring that community members are informed and engaged in important decision-making processes that impact the district.

**Prosper is one of the fastest-growing districts in the state and nation. What is the best way to address that growth and how do we fund the needed buildings to accommodate students?**

Managing rapid growth requires a comprehensive and collaborative approach that involves all stakeholders, including school administrators, educators, parents, and the broader community. Here are some steps that I would consider:

- A comprehensive needs assessment: Determine the number of new students expected, the type of facilities needed, and the funding required.
- A long-term strategic plan: Develop a long-term strategic plan to address the growth. This plan should be flexible and adaptable to changing conditions/growth.
- Funding sources: Explore all available funding sources, including state and federal grants, bonds, and private sector partnerships.
- Innovative solutions: Consider innovative solutions to accommodate the growing student population, such as modular or prefabricated buildings or shared facilities.
- Engage the community: Engage the broader community in the planning process, including parents, educators, and local businesses. This will help to build support for the necessary investments and ensure that all stakeholders have a voice in the process.