

## Amy Fenner

### Introduction

- ❖ Please briefly describe yourself and why you are running for Knox County Board of Education.
  - *I'm Amy Fenner and I'm running to represent the 7th district on the board of education. I will work to restore transparency, rebuild trust and strengthen our schools. I'm committed to fully funding schools, supporting teachers and ensuring every student feels safe and prepared to succeed.*

### Use of Active Transportation

- ❖ How often do you walk for transportation?
  - *Somewhat infrequently*
- ❖ How often do you walk for recreation?
  - *Very frequently*
- ❖ How often do you ride a bicycle for transportation?
  - *Very infrequently*
- ❖ How often do you ride a bicycle for recreation?
  - *Very frequently*
- ❖ How often do you take public transportation?
  - *Very infrequently*

### Active Transportation Infrastructure

- ❖ Please indicate your support for the following:
  - Sidewalks
    - *Strongly favor*
  - Please explain the reasoning behind your response.
    - *I think that sidewalks should be required if a student is within the Parental Responsibility Zone.*
  - Unprotected bike lanes (bike lanes without any physical barriers providing separation from the lane of vehicular traffic)
    - *Neutral*
  - Please explain the reasoning behind your response.
    - *Having a bike lane at all is a win for me.*
  - Protected bike lanes (bike lanes with physical barriers providing separation from the lane of vehicular traffic)
    - *Strongly favor*
  - Please explain the reasoning behind your response.
    - *Adds an extra layer of protection for bicyclists and pedestrians.*

- Greenways
  - *Strongly favor*
- Please explain the reasoning behind your response.
  - *Great way for people to commute or for recreation. Let's you see parts of the county you wouldn't normally see.*
- Traffic calming (improvements in non-motorist safety, mobility, and comfort typically achieved by reducing vehicle speeds or volumes on a single street or a street network)
  - *Strongly favor*
- Please explain the reasoning behind your response.
  - *Reduces motor vehicle speeds and provides a safety net for high traffic areas or neighborhoods with children that play outside.*
- ❖ Please describe your vision for active transportation infrastructure around schools in Knox County, and how you would use your position as a member of the Knox County Board of Education to achieve that vision.
  - *My view is that if KCS is going to require students within the PRZ to walk to school then a sidewalk is required, at least on main roads. And every school should have a crossing guard.*

### **Safe Routes to School**

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a program aimed at making walking and biking to school safer for students. Most often this is in the form of a Walking School Bus (WSB), where school staff and other adult volunteers accompany children walking to or from school, resulting in healthier students and a safer environment. Walking School Bus programming helps reduce traffic and air pollution surrounding schools due to a decrease in the amount of cars idling, increases regular physical activity for students, leads to better academic performance, and can reduce student absences and tardiness. A Walking School Bus is beneficial to everyone in the school environment, but especially serves students and families living in the Parental Responsibility Zone (PRZ).

- ❖ Please rank your priorities for active transportation around Knox County Schools.
  - Complete sidewalk networks
    - *Essential*
  - Complete bike facilities networks
    - *Essential*
  - Safe vehicular traffic speeds on roadways
    - *Essential*
  - Programming to support walking/biking to school
    - *Essential*

- ❖ Please indicate your support for Safe Routes to School and Walking School Bus programming.
  - *Strongly favor*
- ❖ What are your biggest concerns regarding student safety when walking and/or biking to school?
  - *Lack of sidewalks and crossing guards*

### **Miscellaneous**

- ❖ Please share your thoughts on Parental Responsibility Zones (PRZs) and their impact on transportation opportunities for Knox County Schools students and families.
  - *PRZs force students who don't have any other form of transportation to walk on dangerous roads without sidewalks. Sometimes having to walk in ditches to avoid vehicles.*
- ❖ Please share your thoughts on how walking and biking contribute to student physical and mental health and well-being.
  - *An active lifestyle has been shown to improve physical and mental health and when you start an active lifestyle early in life it's easier to maintain as you age. Plus, being outside is awesome.*
- ❖ In respect to active transportation around Knox County Schools, what do you think the Board of Education has done well?
  - *The walking school bus and having a designated walk to school day.*
- ❖ In respect to active transportation around Knox County Schools, what do you think the Board of Education could do better?
  - *Sidewalks and crossing guards.*
- ❖ Is there anything else you would like to share related to active transportation, safety, and/or infrastructure?
  - *I think having a bike or hiking club at school would help students feel more confident on the roads, greenways and sidewalks.*