

NAME: Tarece Johnson
PARTY: Democratic
SEEKING: School Board, Post 5

1. Why are you seeking your office?

I am seeking office to ensure every child regardless of where they live may have the opportunity to have exceptional learning experiences. I am committed to doing the best I can to impact equity in education. I want to work on the School Board to make sure we are proactively addressing the ever-evolving needs of our diverse community. I want to focus on effectively operating in the 21st century with strategic investments in multicultural education, STEM, the arts, and trade skills.

The time for change is now, we must pursue educational equity and justice now.
Visit my website: <https://votetarecejohnson.com/>

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

If elected, during the four-year term, I expect to accomplish improvements in the following:

- multicultural education and multilingual learning
- support for educators
- equitable resources
- character building programs
- holistic family support
- investments in the arts
- innovative differentiated programming
- trade skill attainment and college preparation for high school students
- Strong STEM programming to prepare our children to be successful and competitive both nationally and globally.

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

I have leadership, management, and administrative experience in education, multiculturalism, equity, diversity inclusion, and social justice. I am a hands-on leader with the ability to work in a fast-paced and dynamic environment. The following skills differentiate me from other candidates:

- Significant leadership experience in diversity, equity, and justice in both private corporations, government, and non-profit organizations.
- Multilingual leader with a Masters in Public Administration (Columbia University) and a Masters in Business Administration (Emory University)
- EdD in educational leadership and management with focus on multicultural education and multilingual learning

- Entrepreneur, published author, activist, advocate, and artist.

4. Pick any one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

One major issue I want to focus on is equity in education. Some schools have better outcomes than others and I aim to innovatively address the needs of those students. I want to ensure Gwinnett schools have the resources they need so every student regardless of the zone they live in may receive the same quality education as the high performing schools. I aim to work on meeting the needs of students so they may be prepared for their future.

5. Suggest ways to jump-start the economy after COVID-19.

The economy may be jump-started by investing in and supporting small and medium-sized businesses. Additionally, families need resources (financial & other support services) to help jump start the economy.

In order to ensure educational equity after COVID-19, we must strategically address the societal injustices that directly impact the ability for students to thrive. Student success is not only dependent on highly qualified teachers, good districts, and economically viable neighborhoods, but it is determined based on how we meet the needs of every student. The success of schools is directly tied to achieving justice for the student with the greatest need.

6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background.

I am a single mother of two teens (a son and daughter). I am originally from Houston, Texas and attended public school K – 12th grade. I went to college in Puerto Rico and pursued my first advanced degree in New York City. I lived in New York for over 10 years before relocating to Gwinnett County. I worked on a team to create The High School for Fire and Life Safety in Brooklyn, NY. I am the founder of Global Purpose Academy and The Global Purpose Approach. I also helped to start Peninsula International Academy.