



# King County Democrats 2007 General Candidate Questionnaire

Name	Sherry Carr	Position Sought	Seattle School Board, District 2
Campaign Address	Carr for Seattle's Kids P.O. Box 30696	Campaign Manager	Olita Bracking
City	Seattle	Phone Number	206-914-6790
State	WA	Fax Number	206-527-9182 (call first)
Zip Code	98113	E-mail Address	Sherry@Carr4kids.com
Precinct	46-1313	Web Page	www.Carr4kids.com

Present Occupation Incumbent? How Long?	Finance Manager Not an incumbent	<b>COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION</b> <i>(Leave Blank - For Committee Use Only)</i>
Employer	The Boeing Company	
Union Affiliations	Former SPEEA member (7yrs)	

WHAT RATINGS AND ENDORSEMENTS HAVE YOU RECEIVED?			
Legislative District(s)/Unions	Municipal League	Women's Political Caucus	SeaMEC

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.					
#	Question	Yes	No	Qualified*	
1.	Are you a Democrat? Are you known as a Democrat? If not, explain	X			
2.	Do you support the King County Democratic Platform?	X			
3.	Do you support the right of workers (excluding military) to bargain and strike?	X			
4.	Do you support affirmative action?	X			
5.	Do you support freedom of choice in contraception, abortion and sterilization?	X			
6.	Do you support public funding for abortions for poor women?	X			
7.	Do you support school vouchers? Do you support charter schools?		X		
8.	Do you support the Davis-Bacon Act?	X			
9.	Do you support equal rights for women?	X			
10.	Do you support the Patriot Act?		X		
11.	Do you support the restoration of voting rights to persons convicted of a felony who have served their sentence?	X			
12.	How long have you been registered to vote? <b>29 years</b> Have you missed any elections in the last three years? <b>Yes</b>	X			
<b>If you answer "yes" to any of the following questions please explain on a separate sheet of paper.</b>		<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>	
14.	Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments?				X
15.	Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?				X
16.	Have you ever been convicted of a felony?				X

\* - If you wish to qualify your answer, please provide an explanation on a separate sheet of paper.



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**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS  
(YOU MAY USE A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER FOR ANSWERS)**

1. Are you a member of another political party? If so, which ones? Have you ever supported or given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, whom? **No.**

2. Are you a member of your local Democratic District Party? **Yes.** Have you contributed financially to any Democratic Organization? **Yes.** Have you been a Precinct Committee Officer? **No** When/Where?

3. What are the main messages of your campaign? **Leadership and Accountability for improved academic outcomes for all children; Increased parent satisfaction through quality neighborhood schools, meaningful school choice, and increased predictability of school assignment; Genuine public engagement; Creating and leveraging partnerships with the community, other public agencies, and unions.** What is your campaign plan? How many doors have you knocked on to date, pieces of mail planned, budgeting, staffing? **Doorbelling is underway in precincts within District 2; mailings are planned for District 2 in advance of the primary and across the city in advance of the general election. I have a campaign consultant, fundraiser, treasurer, and campaign manager on staff and many volunteers assisting.** Why will you win? **I have the leadership skills and financial experience to be an effective board member, and I have developed a broad support base through my volunteer activities related to PTSA in Seattle, including members of the parent community in the Seattle Public Schools, the business community, and other community organization leaders.** What is the fundraising goal for your campaign? **\$75K** How much have you raised to date? **Nearly \$15K (including in-kind)**

4. What are the single most pressing issues facing your jurisdiction? What actions would you take if elected? **Seattle Public Schools biggest issue is funding adequacy. Despite the very positive gains made in the last legislative session, funding for public education falls short of the need. This shortfall hampers the District's ability to close the achievement gap as many solutions require funding that can't be achieved or sustained currently. This money is needed to lower the student to teacher ratios in schools where the achievement gap exists and to provide additional academic enrichment opportunities to students (early learning, extended day/after school programs, summer programs). Actions I will take will include working with the District academic leaders whose role it is to identify those changes that need to be made in order to close the achievement gap, establish accountability measures and establish policies that support our educators' success, and seek the resources unavailable to the District to finance their initiatives. Seattle School Board participation in a statewide discussion regarding equitable allocation of education funding will also be necessary, and I would have the financial experience to participate knowledgeably and to drive positive results.**

5. If you are a candidate in a contested primary race, what record of performance, ability, experience, personal qualities, and positions on issues distinguish you from your opponent(s)? **I have been a PTSA leader in the Seattle Public Schools for 9 years, including 2 years as the Seattle Council PTSA President (12,000 member organization); was a Board member for Schools First (levy campaign organization) and a co-chair of the most recently passed levy/bond issues. I was selected as a member of the Superintendent's Community Advisory Committee for Investing in Educational Excellence, and I am a senior finance leader (and former SPEEA union member) at The Boeing Company. I have received 2 Golden Acorn awards through PTSA and numerous other recognitions for my accomplishments in the community.** If you do not receive the nomination, is there any reason you could not support your Democratic opponent in the general election? Please explain. **I will be supportive of and respectful to whoever wins this seat. The impact this role has on our public school children is huge, and whoever wins will need our full support.**

6. Do you believe the current structure of taxes and/or fees that generate funds in your area are fair? If not, how would you change it? **As a School Board Director, the taxes mostly directly linked to education are property taxes and bond initiatives. The 60% super majority requirement for passage of school levy/bond measures unfairly creates a threshold for education funding that does not have to be**



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met with other initiatives. I will work to support the elimination of the super majority requirement for school levy/bond measures. Beyond the context of School Board Director, I believe that the sales tax that is currently in place is regressive and creates revenue streams that are cyclical which is disruptive to funding for education, human services, and transportation. I would be interested in looking at a state income tax to replace the existing sales tax structure.

7. How would you balance continued growth, the quality of the environment and declining petroleum and energy resources? What is the role of the Critical Area Ordinance (CAO)? **As School Board Director, I would have no jurisdiction over these issues.**

8. The caucus system helps Democratic Party members in a legislative body work together and stick together. Do you support determining leadership positions and committee chair positions *solely within* the ranks of the Democratic Caucus? **Yes**

9. What role should government play in the healthcare system? **As School Board Director, I would have no jurisdiction over these issues but I believe our government needs to take steps to make healthcare more available and affordable to everyone.**

10. What is your position on civil rights for Gay, Lesbian, bisexual and trans gendered people? **I support fair and equal protection of the civil rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and trans gendered people. What is your position on equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage and parental rights? I would support equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage, and parental rights.**

11. What creative solutions can you offer to address the problems of the economically disadvantaged? **As School Board Director, the biggest impact I could have on the economically disadvantaged would be to ensure that all children receive a high quality and relevant public education in Seattle. I don't believe there is a single creative solution to this complex issue, but believe that many creative solutions will be required to close this gap. My creative contributions will come in the form of working the financial roadblocks that currently exist to equitable funding.**

12. What would you like us to know about you? **Education has been a core value in my family for four generations. I was the first generation in my family to attend college, and understand first hand that education coupled with hard work and a centered moral compass can result in life changing opportunities. I want these opportunities for the children of the Seattle Public Schools and for our city. I have the skills and experience to do this job well, and am willing to give them in service to the children and families of the Seattle Public Schools. I have demonstrated commitment to our children over the past 9 years through thousands of hours of volunteer support to our public school system. I ask for your support through an endorsement of my campaign. Thank you.**

**In the interests of strengthening the Democratic Party and the ability of the Party to support me or any other candidate, I pledge to uphold high ethical standards. I am responsible for the content of literature, advertising, and statements disseminated by my campaign. If my campaign releases information regarding my opponent(s), I pledge that any such release will allow reasonable time for verification by the voters.**

Signature		Date	
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**Please attach a recent resume.**





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Accomplishments include: Established an organization vision, developed and deployed documented processes to support Finance processes. Received stock options and several recognition awards.

## **Business Management Supervisor/Cost Analyst, 747-500/600X Program**

August, 1996 – January, 1997 (ended with program cancellation)

Provided non-management leadership to the development of the Wing and Body IPT business resource support plans, developed facilities plan. Promoted to supervision in December 1996.

## **Other Positions and Experiences:**

### **The Boeing Company**

Business Leader, Section 48 Product Development Team, 777-300 Program

Cost Analyst, Large Airplane Program and BCA Product Development

Cost Analyst, Methods Analyst, Manufacturing Estimator, Industrial Engineering, B-2 Program

### **Nordstrom**

Cost Analyst, Corporate Cosmetics Division.

Sales Auditor, Accounting Department

**President, Seattle Council PTSA, 2005-2007 - Leader of 12,000-member organization supporting the 46,000 students in the Seattle Public Schools. The organization's mission is to be a strong, effective voice to promote the health, education and welfare of all children.**

[\(http://www.seattlecouncilptsa.org/\)](http://www.seattlecouncilptsa.org/)

**Board Member, Alliance for Education, 2005-2007 - Active Board member of a group of business and civic leaders committed to Seattle Public Schools. The organization's goals include:**

- **Every Child a Great Reader**
- **A Great Teacher in Every Classroom**
- **A Great School for Every Student**

[\(http://www.alliance4ed.org/\)](http://www.alliance4ed.org/)

**Board Member, Schools First, 2005-2007 -** Helped lead the successful levy and capital bond measures in February 2007. The initiatives provide nearly a quarter of the Seattle Public Schools operating budget and provide capital improvements in our community schools. Both measures provide a direct benefit to our Seattle Public Schools children. [\(http://www.schools-first.com/\)](http://www.schools-first.com/)

**Honorary Co-Chair, Schools First Levy Campaign, February, 2007-** Co-chaired the Schools First campaign along with many other community leaders. [\(http://www.schools-first.com/\)](http://www.schools-first.com/)

**Member of Superintendent's Community Advisory Committee for Investing in Educational Excellence (CACIEE), 2005-06 -** One of 14 community leaders selected to develop a set of recommendations to improving academic outcomes for students while ensuring the fiscal viability of the Seattle Public Schools.

**Community  
Activities**



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The committee's recommendations can be found at the following website:  
(<http://www.seattleschools.org/area/committeeforexc/index.dxml>)

**Board Member, Pacifica Children's Choir, 2005-07** – Volunteer Board Member for non-profit children's choir. (<http://pacificachoirs.org/>)

**Volunteer, Seattle Children's Theater 2004-05**– Community volunteer, along with daughters, Bailey and Taylor.

**Vice-President, Seattle Council PTSA 2004-2005** - Provide leadership and assistance to the Seattle Council PTSA President and guidance and mentoring to PTA Leaders within the Seattle Public Schools.

**Area Director, Seattle Council PTSA, 2002-2004** - Provide guidance and mentoring to 15 local PTA Presidents at elementary school level within the Seattle Public Schools.

**PTA Unit Board President (2 yrs), Treasurer (1 yr), Secretary (1 yr), Daniel Bagley Elementary School, Seattle School District, 1999-2003.**

**Co-Founder of Site Council, Daniel Bagley Elementary School, 1999-2000.** Community organization that provides governance to school business and academic decisions.

**Boeing Volunteer, Washington State Special Olympics, 1994-2004**