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## Candidate Kevin Bishop for Dexter School Board

MARCH 30TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Candidate Kevin Bishop for Dexter School Board **Dexter, Missouri.** There are five candidates for three positions in the 2017 Dexter School Board election to be held on April 4, 2017. A bio was submitted on each candidate. Below is the bio for Mr. Kevin Bishop.

**Occupation:** Banker

**Family Members:** Lori Bishop (wife), Anna Claire (daughter, high school sophomore), Lydia (daughter, 7th grade), and Luke (son, 4th grade)

**Personal Education History:** Graduated valedictorian from Trumann High School in Trumann, AR; graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Arkansas State University

**Community Service Activities/Affiliations:** Current member and past president of the Dexter Kiwanis Club, current member and past president of the Dexter Lions Club, Past president of the Dexter Chamber of Commerce, Current secretary for the Dexter Economic Development Board, Served as secretary of the Dexter Bearcat Booster Club for 6 years; volunteer coach for the Dexter Park and Recreation in multiple sports for the last 11 straight years. Current member of the Dexter Board of Education and served a two-year term as board President. Current member of the St. Francis Fitness Plus Advisory Board and current member of the Hidden Trails Finance Advisory Board

**Why do you want to serve as a school board member?**

Outside of my faith, my family remains the #1 priority in my life, and I have 3 children in the Dexter School System. I want to be a part of giving them the best opportunities that public education can offer. When I ran for the board 6 years ago, I ran based on just that simple thought. It continues to be the reason I want to be on the board. I do not have or nor have I ever had an agenda. I believe we have a great school system with stellar educators in place, and I am proud to know my children will graduate from Dexter Public Schools. We have to continue to focus on improvement and we must continue to strive to do the best. This is an ongoing process, and I want to continue to be a part of it. I am a firm believer in prayer, and I have taken every major decision made by this board in to my prayers. Many times tough decisions have to be made on just about any board, and I can lay my head down at night and know it was turned over to the good Lord. The success of our youth as a whole is very important to me, and I want to do everything I can to make sure we are not only giving them a quality education, but that we are delivering good productive citizens to this community when they leave the Dexter Public School System. This is a big reason I have also been involved with coaching youth sports. Yes, I love athletics, and I love being involved with my children, but I have coached on several occasions when my child was not even involved. I want to be good role model to these kids, and the Dexter School Board gives me that platform. This is exactly why I try to be at as many school events as possible. It is important for our youth to see us there supporting them as much as possible and it is important for our staff to know they have board members that attend their events.

**What qualities will you bring to the school board that will benefit the students and staff of Dexter Public Schools?**

I believe above all else, I will bring the passion needed to continue to take this school to the next level. I believe my leadership qualities could be valuable to the district, but I believe the most effective leaders are great listeners. Listening to our faculty and staff on the needs of our district are very important, and although we are unable to always deliver on everything, I feel I have taken every consideration brought to my attention to the appropriate level. I am visible in this community, and with the tough economic times ahead, I believe my financial background will be vital to make sure we do not sacrifice quality educations due to school finance. I also believe I have the leadership qualities to stand strong and unite during tough times as this has been proven with my service to the board and events that were out of our control. We should take pride in having individuals with strong moral character that take pride in standing strong in their faith when serving in a public position and these are qualities I will bring to this service opportunity. I am

very competitive and I take pride in serving this district, and I would be honored to continue that service.

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