**AEA School Board Candidate Questionnaire**

**Name:** David M. Fritz

**Home address:** 1804 Biscay Drive, Godfrey, IL 62035

**Phone number:** 618-741-6922

**Email:** davefritz@charter.net

**Campaign Committee:** David M. Fritz

**Campaign Committee Address:** 1804 Biscay Drive, Godfrey, IL 62035

**Campaign Committee Phone Number:** 618-741-6922

**School Board Experience:** 8

**Years on School Board:** 8

**Elected offices held:** President, Chairperson of Finance Committee

**Other School Board Experience:** davefritz@charter.net

**Names of Organization that you are a member:** Alton Band and Orchestra Builders (ABOB), Rotary Club of Alton-Godfrey

**Occupation:** Accountant, Piasa Enterprises, Inc - Hartford, IL

**Education Information**

**Elementary School** Horace Mann, Dunbar, Lowell, East Junior High

**High School** Alton Sr. High School

**College/University or other education:** BS Finance, Illinois State University

**Questions**

**How do you feel about the public education system as it pertains to you and your family's educational needs?** I graduated from the Alton Sr. High School and my children both have graduated from Alton High School. My wife is in her 31st year as a Educator in the District.

With their education from the Alton District, my daughter was able to build upon it to graduate Summa Cum Laude from MacMurray College and my son received two Bachelor's Degrees from Illinois State University.

I would say that Public Education, and particularly the Public Education from the Alton School District has directly served our family well.

**In general, how do you feel about public education?** Public Education is a critical component to our future and it deserves our utmost efforts to offer its every increasing opportunities to all of our students.

**What, in your opinion, are the strengths of our school district?** Our teachers and staff PERIOD. (And not just because that is to whom I am writing.) I have a great appreciation for my teachers when I was in the District. But this appreciation and admiration has grown exponentially during the past 8 years on the Board. I now get to witness all of the passion that our teachers and staff have for our students and all of the extra miles our teachers and staff go for their students.

I've had the privilege to welcome new teachers and staff during my term as Board President. I love to see their expressions when I explain to them that, in my book, that when it comes down to it, they are "Number 2" on my list...and then explain that is only because our Students are Number 1. Corny but true!

**What, in your opinion, are the weaknesses of our school district?** It is parental/guardian involvement. Far too many from our population don't get this at home and consequently not at school. It is so true that "you get out of Public Education what you put into it."

And the lack of community involvement is another area of concern. This is not a weakness of the district, but a weakness of the communities we serve.

**Do you have ideas/changes that you would like to see instituted in our school district. Please explain.** When there is so much negativity in the news, I'd like to see the positive news from Alton continued to be spread more, but that takes efforts from all of us. We are forced to do this ourselves without a true, local newspaper and with having to supply the positive news to other outlets.