

Dr. Jeanetta Smith

DISD Trustee since 2006

Background



Dr. Jeanetta Smith, a retired teacher with 30 years experience, was selected by the Board of Trustees in September, 2006, to fill the unexpired term for Place 2, which was vacated when her husband, Dr. Sterling Smith, died.

When she took the oath of office on Oct. 4, 2006, she made a commitment to continue her husband's legacy and to work diligently for both the students and educators of Denton ISD. She was then elected to the board in 2009 and 2012. To further her qualifications as a board member, she has participated in both state and national school board conferences, and is a 2009 graduate of Leadership TASB.

Dr. Smith was born in Miller Grove in East Texas and later moved with her family to Lancaster, Texas. She earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1962 at what is now the University of North Texas.

Her first teaching job was in the Dallas school district. She and her husband then moved to Tucson, Arizona, where they attended graduate school and taught in the public schools. Jeanetta earned a master's degree at the University of Arizona in 1965.

They moved to Austin, Texas where she taught in Austin ISD and earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from the University of Texas in 1973. The Smiths moved to Oxford, Mississippi where she earned a master's degree in art education from the University of Mississippi.

When they moved back to Denton, she became an elementary education adjunct professor at UNT. In 1979, she was hired by the Denton school district as a third-grade teacher. She became an assistant principal and then returned to the classroom as a teacher of gifted and talented students.

She earned a doctorate in early childhood education from Texas Woman's University in 1997. Dr. Smith retired in 2006 from Denton ISD.

She has one son, Austin, who is a landscape architect, and is married to Whitney Smith. She has two granddaughters, Audrey Leigh and Payton Jean.



"Dr. Smith brings many cherished qualities to the board. She is a team player, a critical thinker, and as a former gifted and talented educator she brings an unrelenting focus that is directed to the success of students. Above all, if we're friends, colleagues or students that she has touched, we all realize her integrity is truly intact"

- Virginia Gallian
Former Board Member



Insights and Contributions

Dr. Smith's strong educational background helps her in her role as school trustee. She has attended several state school board functions, sponsored by the Texas Association of School Boards. She has also served as School Board Secretary.

As a 33-year resident of the Denton area, she has a strong tie to the district and especially its students. Her lifetime interests have revolved around her family, church, friends and professional and educational pursuits.

