

Mark H. Thomas
Candidate, Board of Education
Oconee County School System

Residence (21 years)

1531 Aycock Rd.
Bishop, Georgia

Family

Married – Dianne Neal Thomas
Children – Morgan (16), Madison (11), Andrew (8)

Work Experience

Mark Thomas Enterprises, Inc., Owner, Grading and Electrical Contractor 1988 - present
Flint EMC, Manager of Member and Public Relations 1983 - 1988
Elder Construction Company 1981 - 1983
Member of Oconee County family-owned farming operation - life long

Education

Southern Poly Technical Institute, Land Surveying Program, 2008
University of Georgia, College of Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering Department, BSAMT,
1983
Oconee County High School, 1978

Continuing Education

NRECA Management Internship Program, University of Nebraska
Heil Quaker Corporation, Heat Pump Equipment Certification
Certified Air Conditioning Contractors of America Instructor
Certified Electrical Instructor
Member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers
Member of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors
Member of the Surveying and Mapping Society of Georgia

Georgia Licenses

Unrestricted Electrical License
Utility Manager License
HVAC License
Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (Level 1A Certification)
OSHA Trenching and Excavations Certification

Instructor for Electrical and HVAC

Georgia Electric Membership Corporations
Georgia Power Company
Southern Company
South Eastern Electrification Council
Athens Regional Medical Center
Contributing author for the Georgia State Electrical Licensing Examination
Instructor, Adult Education Classes: University of Georgia, Fort Valley State College,
Bainbridge College, Clayton State College, Athens Technical College, Gwinnett
Technical College

Civic/Religious

Watkinsville First Christian Church: Board Chairman, 2 terms; Elder, 13 years;
Trustee, 12 years; Sunday School Teacher, 14 years
President, Watkinsville Civitan Club 1993

Oconee County Fire Department Citizen of the Year, 1998
Oconee County Tax Equalization Board, 1991 - present
Oconee County High School Technology/Career Education Advisory Committee 2003 - 2007

The task of the school board is to listen to the community, and develop the policies that will guide our schools and our school system in a positive and productive direction. The citizens and taxpayers of Oconee County deserve full and open access to their school board. We have one of the top school systems in the state of Georgia, and our school board must provide positive support to these schools, thereby assuring our continual improvement. It is important that our school system be guided by our parents, teachers, school administrators, community leaders, elected officials, and concerned citizens. The voices of these various sectors of our society are vital to the formation of policies by the Board of Education. The challenge of a school board member is to communicate with these diverse groups, to understand their desires, and to take them into consideration in directing school governance. The school board guidance should be as good as our schools.

Throughout my life, I have consistently exhibited a commitment to positions of service and leadership. I have diligently continued my formal education so that I would be prepared to accept new opportunities to lead and serve. I have been a faithful servant to my church, family, and community. As a candidate for the Oconee County Board of Education, I pledge to be transparent, reliable, ethical, and discerning. I will bring fresh interest to the prudent management of our School System today, as well as wisdom in planning for the future. The students, teachers, administrators and parents have created a legacy of excellence in our schools. The school board serves as a steward of that legacy. Let us preserve this tradition of excellence by voting for me.