

NAME: P.K. Martin
PARTY: Republican
SEEKING: Georgia Senate, District 9



Why are you seeking your office?

Gwinnett can be an example to the rest of the country of what a successful, diverse, and growing community looks like. We can never lose focus on the principles that our community's success was built on. We must respect our neighbors, keep government accountable and protect taxpayers. I ran because I believe we need leaders who listen and are available to those that elected them. It is an honor to serve in the Senate and a responsibility I take seriously. I'm dedicated to following through on my promises to lead by example, make you proud, and keep our community strong.

What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I plan to continue to be available to the people I represent, listen to their concerns, and address those concerns and priorities in the Senate. I will keep education as a primary focus. We need well-funded, safe schools where our children can learn and thrive and to grow the workforce we need to fill the jobs of today and tomorrow. We also still have great needs in transportation infrastructure. My goal is to do everything I can to make sure that appropriate funding and attention is given to solving traffic congestion in Gwinnett with solutions that work and protect taxpayers.

What distinguishes your candidacy?

I reject the petty and divisive politics we are experiencing today. There are a lot of good people serving in Atlanta with the very best of intentions. We don't agree on everything, but what we do have in common is that we are working to do what's best for those we serve. Over the past 4 years bipartisan initiatives include, transportation funding, school safety, fully funding education, criminal justice reform, historic tax cuts, cracking down on human trafficking and responsible budgeting. These have resulted in Georgia remaining the best state in the country to live and do business.

How can we improve school safety?

It all starts with listening. Having served on the Georgia Senate K12 Student Safety Study Committee, I traveled all over Georgia to listen to different communities' ideas on school safety. GCPs is leading the pack on this issue. The safety grants we approved last year are making a real impact through the hiring of additional resource officers. We must continue to make sure that districts have the resources they need to protect students in a way that best fits their schools. We must address mental health and add more councilors in our schools to help students in need of help.

Pick one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

As easy as it would be to have only one issue to address, there are several issues that are important to the people I serve. Transportation solutions that work to reduce congestion, patient-centered healthcare reform that lowers costs and covers those who need it most, school security, keeping Georgia the number state to live and do business, protecting taxpayers, and continuing to support and fund education to grow the workforce we need and to ensure every child has the opportunity they deserve.

Please give a 100 word summary on your background

I am a 5th generation Gwinnett County native. I graduated from Georgia Tech in 2000 and work for my family business, Hood Insurance Agency, in Lawrenceville. I have been heavily invested in our local community since 2005 when I successfully ran for Lawrenceville City Council. I'm married to my wife, Amanda, and have two middle school children. I have served in the Georgia Senate serving District 9 for the past 4 years. I currently serve as Gov. Nathan Deal's Administrative Floor Leader, which means I've worked closely with Governor Deal to carry out and implement his legislative plans.