



MS District school board member and candidate Linda Bourne addresses a large crowd at the South River Alliance candidates forum last week at Dugwood Elementary School.

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member of the evening session Bourne rather withdrew as she discussed her accomplishments and her vision for Free County Schools.

Linda Bourne, who currently represents the 10th District and is serving a second term as vice chair of the Free County Board of Education, referred to Dugwood Elementary for her contribution to the school board member representing the Community

about the schools close up to them. "I feel that neighborhood support is important to our kids," she emphasized.

Bourne talked about the benefit of the community school program such as Dugwood. "This model brings services, partner ships and members to our school, which has contributed to our students' success."

Another representative she mentioned has been

selection which she says has brought an increased positive school culture and morale. She is also proud of the work accomplished by the educational department in educational outcomes last time of which she was a member.

Bourne believes that there is still much to be done and said she has goals for the future of Free County Schools and the schools in South River.

about to see the outcome of successful early literacy program continues to expand throughout Free County.

Candidates for county commission at large were present were Bruce Richards, Larry Smith, John Fogg and Tom Gill. David Carter was represented by Dave Wilson and Lauren by web membership South River. The candidates were seated in

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Questions answered at mayoral candidate debate

By Mike County Independent

Campaign supporters and interested citizens packed the auditorium at South River's major

that money is better in our pocket than in some politician's hands."

Thomas said "No" and said that the county needs to "take back our power"

Thomas agreed some departments could be consolidated and that the county is not doing it.

Thomas said he "can't

system, safety, teachers pay and the need for child education at an earlier age.

The candidates were also asked about neighborhood safety, pay raises for

Early voting starts Wednesday

By Mike County Independent

Early voting in Free County begins Wednesday and the race for sheriff and county magistrate is beginning the hunt. There are lots of all our offices on the table, everything from commission to non-partisan school board races.

It is all about early voting on the 1st