

## NASB State Board Candidate Questionnaire 2024



### Dave Wordekemper – LD 15

1. **Local Control** - With so many decisions from the legislature impacting local boards, NASB is interested in your view of local control. Regarding education, what decisions do you feel are best made at the school board level vs. the State level?

I believe the best decisions are made close to home. Local leaders are best equipped to decide how to manage their needs and resources locally. The state should also be a partner in the success of all students but not micromanage each district.

2. **School Funding** - Every year the legislature makes decisions about the way schools are funded, making predictability of funding a challenge. What changes and/or adjustments, if any, do you think the Legislature should address?

I think school funding needs to be done in a way that creates predictability therefore helping with stability in the budget process but should also allow for some flexibility for unknown expenditures. School districts shouldn't have to worry every year about what the legislature may change.

3. **Role of Education in the State** - What role do you think PK-12 Education plays in the future success of the State and your community?

It is very important to educate our children so they can be successful and contribute to our economy by having good jobs while living in our state. In district 15 Fremont Public School is opening a new career and technical education center which I believe will encourage a future in the trades which is greatly needed.

4. **Educational Workforce** - Educational workforce continues to be a challenge across the State from teachers to bus drivers. What would be your plan to address this challenge?

We need to look at how we can incentivize and recruit more teachers in our state. Teachers have a direct impact on how students become successful.

5. **Mandates** - School districts continue to be challenged by the increasing unfunded mandates put upon them by the State and Federal government. What is your response to mandates and the State's role in them?

If the State or Federal government are going to create mandates for school districts then they should provide options for funding.

**Final Thoughts**

When I am State Senator my door is always open to learn more about school funding and the challenges that the school districts face.

**How can voters contact you?**

[WoodyforNebraska.com](http://WoodyforNebraska.com)

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