

NASB State Board Candidate Questionnaire 2024



Glen Meyer – LD 17

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 local control is most important for the proper operation of our schools. The combination of parents, administration and staff with an eye on expected outcomes is best served by local control. Curriculum, class size, extracurricular offerings, number of school days per week and school discipline are just some of things best determined by our local schools.

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?

The legislature is currently facing a special session which may drastically change the way schools are funded as part of the Governor Pillen's property tax reform package. I will not support any change in school funding if we lose local control of our schools as part of any proposed plan.

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?

By providing the best possible education in our K-12 school system we ensure the state has a high quality, motivated workforce. Additional education opportunity's, colleges and trade schools, etc., help improve and grow Nebraska's businesses and keep our best and brightest here in Nebraska. These factors help our communities to grow and prosper. Future economic growth in our state and communities depends in large part on our schools.

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?

Let teachers teach instead of requiring them to be clerks and paper shufflers filling out reports. Identify and prioritize what should be taught in our schools like science,

mathematics, technology, life skills and those core curriculums that our businesses and communities require.

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?

The state imposes unfunded mandates on our schools and then criticizes or penalizes the schools for finding a way (generally property taxes) to fund the mandates. If the state feels something is important enough in education that it requires schools to provide for it then it should fund it. Ironic since we're focusing on reducing property taxes especially for funding schools.

Final Thoughts

District 17 is very diverse in its student population in our communities schools. Some are building new facilities with anticipation of state mandated consolidations for efficiency. Some are overcrowded now and dealing with how to accommodate a growing student population and the financial challenges of funding facilities. I look forward to working with District 17 school boards and administrations as well as their communities to provide the best outcomes for our students.

How can voters contact you?

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