

NASB State Board Candidate Questionnaire 2024



Stan Clouse – LD 37

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 am an advocate for local control as local elected officials are closest to constituents and generally know the issues affecting their schools. State level decisions should be used when there is a need for continuity and consistency between districts.

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 funding formula is always a challenge but there hasn't been a viable solution presented yet. One issue is the timing of budget submittals - school budgets are based on estimates as the assessor has not provided valuation numbers when budgets are being prepared. I'm not a fan of spending caps as levy lids already exist but that seems to be the direction we are headed.

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?

Public education is the backbone of every community so it needs to be supported and embraced. We need to ensure curriculum and delivery methods are creative and meeting ever changing demands and demographics.

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?

Workforce issues exist in every business and industry so education is not unique. We need to have open dialogue and bring them to the table to make sure their concerns are being heard and then work together for solutions. Simply throwing money at any problem is not an answer - understand barriers and challenges first before jumping in with a solution.

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?

Any mandate issues should have funding if necessary for implementation. Legislative bodies cannot (but they do) create mandates and then be critical when local bodies have to take whatever means available to meet them. This holds true for schools, counties, municipalities, etc.

Final Thoughts

Public education must be a sense of pride in our state as it is a function of government that cannot be brushed aside. Children are our future and must be viewed as an asset to be nurtured and developed to the best of our ability.

How can voters contact you?

Email or candidate legislative website