

NASB State Board Candidate Questionnaire 2026



Janet Bock – LD 30

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?

During my 12 years as a TriCounty BOA member and today, I feel the majority of how the day to day work of how a school functions is up to the Superintendent which the school board has chosen and input from patrons is taken into account. This includes hiring Superintendents who are competent as well as compatible with the board of ed, the teachers, and students. State level decisions primarily have to do with funding to keep schools functional. I am against vouchers and for public 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?

TEEOSA seems to be working. I feel that until tax issues are addressed and stabilized, this system will need to stay in place.

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?

Education is the basis of how a society functions. We can not allow all learners, pre-K - 12 and beyond, to be uneducated and expect citizens to attempt to function in today's environment. A thriving state needs a multitude of educated citizens ranging from Trade Schools to Doctoral programs. By the way....Nurses Are Professionals.

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?

Teachers are over worked and pay is amazingly low for their responsibilities. Offering benefits to all, allowing for more time off during the year, providing child care at schools could be helpful in attracting and retaining staff.

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?

I feel the State of Nebraska is financially responsible for any mandate that involves needing funds.

Final Thoughts

I am a lifelong learner. I loved the public schools I personally attended, and was very happy with TriCounty for my children. Book bans and restrictions are questionable when students can go to any public library and check out a book otherwise deemed unfit. Cell phone restriction is a challenge. Children as well as adults can be addicted to their electronic devices. There should be flexibility to run a public school however it works best for the community.

How can voters contact you?

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