

NASB Legislative Candidate Questionnaire 2022



NAME: Merv Riepe - District 12

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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?

- *Support local control with board members who serve communities as a fiduciary duty.*

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?

- *Need for funding stability.*

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 essential to the State and its citizens if we are to live free and prosper.*

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?

- *Need to retain and recruit teachers who are called to serve. We must recognize and reward exceptional teachers.*

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?

- *Mandates need to be funded.*

Final Thoughts

- *Local boards need to embrace parental rights and promote engagement. The core purpose in education needs to promote diversity and inclusion but must be done in addition to not in lieu of proficiency in STEM courses.*

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