

NASB Legislative Candidate Questionnaire 2022



NAME: Barry DeKay – District 40

How can voters contact you? bdekay@threeriver.net

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?

- *staffing, salaries, curriculum*

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 feel that every student should have the best opportunity to get the best education possible. I know that sparsity affects every facet of the rural community. I don't know if there could be a scale that could be prorated out that would give those students the same opportunities as the urban students. I would look at all options that might achieve those goals.*

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 and a good work ethic in the classroom helps set the wheels in motion for success later in life. Good study habits helps set a student up by showing them that hard work has its rewards.*

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?

- *Nebraska needs to be able to keep educators teaching. Great motivated hard working teachers need to be rewarded through compensation, through recognition, and community support.*

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 need to learn more about what mandates that the schools are dealing with to better understand. I am willing to listen and learn more about this so that I can have an educated way to deal with this.*

Final Thoughts

- *I am a fan of public education in the state of Nebraska. I have a son-in-law, niece, two sister-laws, and a lot of friends that are teachers in the state. I would like to be able to help them be as successful as they can with their students. Our students are our next leaders, we must help them be as strong as they can be.*

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