

NASB Legislative Candidate Questionnaire 2022



NAME: Machaela Cavanaugh – District 6

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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?

- *I believe there needs to be a balance when it comes to education. The ideal is for every child to have the same quality of education across the state. The reality is resources and populations are different and have different needs. Therefore, I think whenever possible, decision making should be primarily held at the local level.*

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 believe that the state should be fully funding education at the state level, with an increase in educator pay. Property taxes are not a sustainable way to fund education.*

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?

- *PK-12 education is essential to the future of our state. Our school system is educating our most valuable and precious resources. With out a well educated population, our community will suffer.*

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?

- *I would like to expand student loan forgiveness programs in the state. Additionally, increase pay for the workforce. Additional challenges to recruiting and retaining a workforce have to do with the tense and often times toxic climate when it comes to education.*

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 that comes from the state needs to come with funding.*

Final Thoughts

- *I believe that our education professionals are part of the frontline of the future of this state. We MUST invest more in education and spend less time criticizing our education system about manufactured crisis.*

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