

## NASB Legislative Candidate Questionnaire 2022



NAME: Mike Jacobson – District 42

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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?

- *As long as "core stem" education is provided, it seems to me that all other decisions need to be made locally.*

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 agree that funding needs to be predictable, I also believe that most rural schools are "equalized" and not getting their fair share of TEEOSA funding. This seems unfair to me and in turn puts an undue burden on local property tax bases. I would like to see these dollars shared on a per student basis.*

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?

- *It all begins here. I am a huge proponent of early childhood education and support for quality "in person" education PK-12. A great basis education at this level sets all our students up for success in their later careers regardless of their career track.*

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 believe that we need to focus on both short and long term needs. In the short term, we need to be prepared to adjust standards to solve the immediate needs. Long-term, we need to adjust funding levels to make salaries competitive and make teaching more attractive to those looking for a long term career. Compensation and working conditions general always carry the day.*

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 am totally opposed to unfunded mandates at all levels of Government. I also have concerns about adding more to the plates of school districts given the current labor availability.*

### **Final Thoughts**

- *We are fortunate to live in Nebraska and have the teaching workforce currently in our state who care about student outcome. Local school boards are elected by their local patron. This provides the best opportunity for creating good outcomes. Forcing local boards to implement mandated subject matter is inconsistent with good local control. I fully support local school boards.*

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