

# #34

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Email Invitation 1 (Email)  
**Started:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 6:07:10 PM  
**Last Modified:** Thursday, July 23, 2020 11:30:04 PM  
**Time Spent:** Over a day  
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## Q1

Contact

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## Q2

Party Affiliation

Respondent skipped this question

## Q3

Office Sought

**State Board of Education**

## Q4

District

2

## Q5

Incumbent?

**No**

## Q6

Do you believe that scientific fact and the advice of health professionals should be paramount in decisions regarding public health crises like the COVID-19 pandemic?

**Yes**

**Q7**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

Inherent in the philosophy of education is a respect for those who possess more knowledge than I do regarding their area of expertise. I am quite able and knowledgeable regarding making decisions having to do with, for example, financial accounting, or with teaching in a college classroom. However, as someone with only a few science classes in my college career, I rely on the scientists, researchers, health professionals when needing answers in those areas. Inherent in the philosophy of education is that people should be valued and listened in the areas in which they have committed much time and discipline to acquiring knowledge and expertise.

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**Q8****No**

Do you believe that proof of citizenship should be required in order to register to vote?

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**Q9**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

The Supreme Court knocked down Kansas' requirement and I agree, though would recommend Kansans bring their ID so there is less room for error for our hard-pressed election workers.

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**Q10****No**

Do you believe that laws covering the sale of firearms are sufficient? If yes, why? If no, do you believe they should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

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**Q11**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

Firearms are a strong part of the American culture, and I support the second amendment. However, as with all freedoms come responsibilities. As a professor, I oppose open carry and concealed carry in schools for a number of personal and professional reasons, among those being the inability of our security teams to determine which shooter is the offender and which is the respondent. I have worked with students who lose their tempers and have suicidal thoughts. I was relieved that they did not have firearms in their possession (and I know this because I asked them). Safety of Kansas students should be our top priority.

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**Q12****No**

Do you support amending the Kansas Constitution to eliminate the protection for individual reproductive freedoms contained in the Kansas Constitution?

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**Q13**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

The issues of abortion and reproductive freedom is far outside of the purview of my role on the Kansas Board of Education. Working with colleagues who have differing views on this issue will not be a problem in any way as I serve in this role.

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**Q14****Yes**

Do you believe that diversity in representation is critical to effective governing? If yes, as an elected official what will you do to promote and engage leaders who more accurately reflect the diversity of members in our communities?

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**Q15**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

Yes. My most effective classrooms are racially, ethnically, and economically diverse. When students from a variety of backgrounds come together to learn, to engage, and discuss, students become more effective listeners, which serves them well in business. As a white male, I make a conscious effort to seek out and listen to diverse voices and experiences. For example, I volunteered to be the faculty advisor to the JCCC International Student Club, the most active student organization on campus. It has been one of the most enriching experiences in my 20-year career in the classroom.

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**Q16****Yes**

Do you believe climate change is real and caused by human activity? If so, what policies should legislators pursue to improve climate resilience?

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**Q17**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

Yes, climate change is real and humans are accelerating this change. As someone who values taking guidance from subject experts, I follow the guidance of the scientific community. I have witnessed first-hand JCCC's sustainability work, which is a nationwide model for recycling, reusing, composting, and upcycling on campuses, as well as business and industry. Working to solve climate change makes sense economically. Kansas is a leader in wind energy production, as well as jobs – and we have plenty of space and sun for expansion of solar fields. The legislature should cultivate that specialty through state and local policies favorable to residential wind (and solar) development and use.

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**Q18****Yes**

Do you support amending the current Kansas Act Against Discrimination to include the same protections for sexual orientation and gender identity?

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**Q19**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

Yes, I support this.

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**Q20****No**

Should public funding be available for private school tuition via tax credit scholarships, education savings accounts, vouchers or other methods? What is your opinion about the current funding for Kansas schools?

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**Q21**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

Every Kansas citizen benefits from high quality public education, whether they have children in public school or not. The Kansas constitution has included a public education provision since Kansas entered the Union. This speaks to our priorities as a state. The legislature enacted a plan to meet the constitutional requirement for K-12 funding that was accepted by the state Supreme Court. It is important to honor that commitment. What is it worth to educate those who will lead when we are gone, those who will create businesses, teach, heal, and protect? I support adequate funding and local control to meet our highest and best goals for Kansas kids and the future they hold.

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**Q22****Yes**

Do you support Medicaid expansion at a time when pandemic-induced job loss has left thousands of Kansans without health care coverage?

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**Q23**

Please expand on your answer to the question above.

I have had students who have had to drop out of college, and they have not returned, because of medical bills. I believe Kansans are concerned with the high costs of health care.

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