

MainPAC Candidate Survey

2021 Kansas Elections

Q1-5.

Candidate Name: **Brady Hoffman**
Candidate Email: **brady.hoffman.4@gmail.com**
Candidate Phone: **785-817-2498**
Office Sought: **School Board Member**
Office County: **Shawnee**
Office City: **n/a**
Office District: **At-Large**

Candidate Rating: 88%

Q6. Political discourse in Kansas could be characterized as siloed and divisive. How do you intend to engage citizens and colleagues in potentially difficult conversations? (Available points: 1)

- A. If elected I will seek to find compromises when it is clear my constituents are divided. (1)
- B. If elected I will be loyal to the ideology associated with my party affiliation.

Candidate Answer: If elected I will seek to find compromises when it is clear my constituents are divided.

Candidate Comment: In this position, as a school board member, it is critical to put politics aside and do what is best for the students and community.

Q7. Which of the following statements best aligns with your stance on local elected officials making decisions for their communities, particularly local tax and revenue decisions? For information about Home Rule please see

https://www.lkm.org/page/Home_Rule. (Available points: 2)

- A. Local elected officials should have ultimate authority in decision making for their communities, consistent with Home Rule. (2)
- B. Local elected officials should have limited authority in decision making for their communities. (1)
- C. Local elected officials should not have authority in decision making for their communities. Decisions should be made by the state.

Candidate Answer: Local elected officials should have ultimate authority in decision making for their communities, consistent with Home Rule.

Candidate Comment: With some limitations. Local officials should know what is best for their communities (if they can support the decisions locally i.e. financially). Local officials are looking what is best for their communities, the state is looking at what is best for the whole. The best answer, as always, it depends.

Q8. Do you support allocating additional resources specifically for implementing/expanding mental health programs?

(Available points: 1)

- A. Yes (1)
- B. No

Candidate Answer: Yes

Candidate Comment: According to Shawnee County Community Health Needs Assessment this is a top priority that has been identified.

Q9. Which of the following statements best aligns with your opinion about transparency in local government? (Available points: 1)

- A. Local government should be as transparent as is legally possible in all circumstances. (1)
- B. Transparency is important, but should be secondary to efficiency.
- C. There are some times when transparency is important, but there are other issues the public doesn't have the capacity to understand and transparency becomes less important.

- D. The people vote for a candidate because they trust them, so transparency is not as important for elected officials as for other public leaders.

Candidate Answer: Local government should be as transparent as is legally possible in all circumstances.

Candidate Comment: Everyone wants to feel safe and included in decisions made that will impact their lives. It begins with communication and transparency is a key component to high-level communication.

Q10. Which of the following statements best aligns with your opinion about access to health care? (Available points: 2)

- A. Local government has a responsibility to support access to health care. (2)
- B. Local government in my area is currently meeting the community's access needs. (1)
- C. Local government has no role in health care.

Candidate Answer: Local government has a responsibility to support access to health care.

Candidate Comment: We need to take care of our own. We understand SDoH are key to ones health. Local government should have an expanding role to be equitable and help address issues linked to health.

Q11. To what degree do you believe that diversity in representation at all levels of government is critical to effective governing? (Available points: 1)

- A. Extremely Important (1)
- B. Neutral
- C. Not important

Candidate Answer: Extremely Important

Candidate Comment: Ideally it matches patient population, or the candidate is extremely competent in identifying stakeholders and how the decision impacts each and every individual. They must also have a network of subject matter experts to rely on to ensure the impacts remain positive for all parties.

Q12. Professional public entity staff are expected to bring expertise, research, and accuracy to assist elected officials in their work. These may include health professionals, legal experts, research librarians, school administrators and the like. Regarding these professionals, which of the following is generally most true? (Available points: 1)

- A. It is the role of locally elected leaders to **support** the professionals who work in public service (1)
- B. It is the role of locally elected leaders to **scrutinize** the professionals who work in public service
- C. It is the role of locally elected leaders to **stay distant** from the professionals who work in public spaces
- D. It is the role of elected leaders to **closely manage** the professionals who work in public service

Candidate Answer: It is the role of locally elected leaders to support the professionals who work in public service

Candidate Comment: The professionals understand the workflows and impacts better than the elected officials. The issue is they work in silos and may not understand the big picture. Close collaboration and communication is the best we can do.

Q13. Which of the following most closely aligns with your view of the role of local government in each of these policy issues? (Available points: 6)

- A. Very Relevant (2)
- B. Somewhat Relevant (1)
- C. Irrelevant
- D. Not Applicable

Issue: Climate Change

Candidate Answer: Somewhat Relevant

Candidate Comment: Small scale locally, but we all must do what we can to ensure a sustainable ecosystem moving forward.

Issue: Gun Safety

Candidate Answer: Somewhat Relevant

Candidate Comment: It depends. Some communities may have a problem with gun safety while others do not. Education must start in the home and grow into the communities.

Issue: Voting Access

Candidate Answer: Very Relevant

Candidate Comment: It is our job to ensure a representative population. Everyone should be given an opportunity to participate in the most equitable and legal way possible.

Q14. Which of the following statements best aligns with your opinion about K - 12 schools? (Available points: 1)

- A. Public money should only be used to support public schools. (1)
- B. Public money should be used to support all schools, regardless of their public or private status.

Candidate Answer: Public money should only be used to support public schools.

Candidate Comment: With caveats. Private schools are still serving a purpose, but ideally they should be self sustainable.

Q15. In light of the current political landscape, what is your stance on the role your personal religious beliefs should play in policy decisions? (Available points: 1)

- A. If I have personal religious beliefs that are important to me, I know they might differ from other's beliefs; therefore I will strive to respect the separation of church and state in policy decisions and my votes. (1)
- B. My personal religious beliefs are important to me therefore my religious beliefs will be the driving factor in policy decisions and my votes.

Candidate Answer: If I have personal religious beliefs that are important to me, I know they might differ from other's beliefs; therefore I will strive to respect the separation of church and state in policy decisions and my votes.

Candidate Comment: My personal religious beliefs are separate from what another person may believe. Politics and religion should not play a part in deciding what is best for the community and the students. We need to take a breath and ask ourselves why are we doing what we are doing. The answer is to help everyone be the best they can be. All religions, political beliefs etc. need a safe place to learn.

Q16. How do you understand the role (the duties, responsibilities, and scope) of the position you are seeking?

Candidate Answer: To be a member of the board, the ultimate governing body of USD 372, the goal is to provide the best educational system with the resources we have. Having full authority over the operations of the district is the key responsibility. Scope pertains to only in session. Individual board members would have no authority to act independently.

Q17. You will have to publicly account for your political contributions. To date, how much money have you collected or has been pledged to your campaign?

Candidate Answer: \$0

Q18. How many donors does your answer above reflect?

Candidate Answer: n/a

Q19. From which other organizations have you received endorsements? (Enter "n/a" if none).

Candidate Answer: n/a

Q20. From which other organizations are you seeking endorsements? (Enter "n/a" if none).

Candidate Answer: n/a

Q21. Is there anything else you'd like to add to this survey? Please do that here.

Candidate Answer: It is an honor to run for school board of USD 372. This is a role and responsibility I take extremely seriously. The decisions and impacts we make reach further than we can realize. I will always communicate in a simple way: mean what I say, be able to ba

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