

MainPAC Candidate Survey

2021 Kansas Elections

Q1-5.

Candidate Name: Brian Matlock
Candidate Email: mrmatlock@gmail.com
Candidate Phone: 9139630697
Office Sought: Other (please specify)
Office County: Wyandotte
Office City: Kansas City
Office District: 2

Candidate Rating: 76%

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:

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 limited authority in decision making for their communities.

Candidate Comment: As much as it is feasible, direct participation, participatory budgeting etc. should give people input in determining priorities, not just their elected officials.

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:

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:

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:

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:

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 scrutinize the professionals who work in public service

Candidate Comment: It is a mix. Professionals can have various blind spots and vested interests and so at time they should be scrutinized on behalf of the people they serve. They also provide valuable knowledge and experience and should be taken seriously. The goal should be to ensure their efforts are done in public service.

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: While the biggest sources of pollution are large multinational corporations, cities still have an important role to play with pursuing sustainable energy production, providing energy efficient transportation, housing, etc.

Issue: Gun Safety

Candidate Answer: Very Relevant

Candidate Comment:

Issue: Voting Access

Candidate Answer: Somewhat Relevant

Candidate Comment:

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:

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:

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

Candidate Answer: The board should set the long term vision and strategy for the public utility, setting up goals and deliverables that the staff is expected to pursue. BPU is publicly owned, and the goals outlined by the board should serve the best interests of the public, not merely keep the utility functioning. This should be an ambitious agenda that pursues a long term strategy sustainable energy and equitable service to the community.

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: 0

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: Sunrise Movement BuildPower MoKan Sierra Club Equality KS RentZero Kansas

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

Candidate Answer:

END SURVEY