



SUPPORTING ALBERTA STUDENTS by advocating for excellence in education through maximum parental choice

School Trustee Candidate Questionnaire

Dear Trustee Candidate,

[Parents for Choice in Education \(PCE\)](#) is an Alberta-based, non-profit organization that supports Alberta students by advocating for excellence in education through maximum parental choice.

The following eight questions are being provided to public and Catholic school trustee candidates across Alberta to inform voters on key educational issues for the October 16th election. All questions include embedded hyperlinks to provide necessary context and background understanding.

Please record your responses in the attached Candidate Response Form, answering with “Y” (yes), “S” (somewhat) or “N” (no) to each question.

We expect that candidates who respond with “somewhat” to any of the questions will provide the nuance of their answer in the “Additional Comments” section.

Please email your completed Candidate Response Form to admin@parentchoice.ca by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 29th, 2017.

Responses will be published on our website (www.parentchoice.ca/2017_trustee_election) starting October 1st and shared through our mailing list and social media to thousands of voters who are highly engaged in the area of education. We will also distribute responses to other groups to share with their networks.

Candidates who receive the survey, but choose not to respond will be noted publicly.

Thank you for your participation and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

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|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Trustee Candidate Name: | | | | | | | | |
| School District: | | | | | | | | |
| Specific Ward/Area (if applicable): | | | | | | | | |
| Trustee Candidate Website: | | | | | | | | |
| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q5 | Q6 | Q7 | Q8 |
| Responses - choose from “Y” (yes), “S” (somewhat) “N” (no) | | | | | | | | |
| Additional Comments (optional) | | | | | | | | |

1. Do you agree that all education laws, school board policies and best practices in Alberta should comply with the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*, the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and the *Family Law Act* when it comes to the [right of parents to direct, and be fully informed about](#), all aspects of their children's education?

2. Do you agree that the Alberta government should maintain current levels of [funding to support a wide range of educational choices](#), including public, Catholic, independent, faith-based schools, charter and alternative schools, and all forms of home education?

3. Currently, provincial legislation requires that parents be provided notice when a program of study includes subject-matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion or human sexuality (*School Act*, section 50.1). Do you agree that this notice and opt-out opportunity should continue to be provided?

4. Do you agree that curriculum development [must be transparent](#) and [focused on clearly defined and foundational basic skill outcomes](#) in core subject areas?

5. Do you agree that [high quality standardized testing](#) must be used to ensure education accountability is maintained for students who are covering Alberta curriculum?

6. When it comes to communicating student progress for Grades 7-12, would you agree that an [objective and clear reporting system](#) of percentages and class averages (as opposed to descriptive terms only) is important?

7. Do you agree parents should be permitted to choose the location, type and style of education (i.e. home-based, language, interest, faith-based, etc.) that best suits their child, free of [bureaucratic](#), [union](#) or [government](#) coercion?

8. In the Spring of 2017 it was revealed that an organization in charge of a government-recommended website was [linking children to sexually graphic material](#), resulting in a severe violation of public trust and the endangerment of children. Do you agree those involved should be removed from authority and access to children in Alberta schools?