

## **SCGOP Questions for School Board Trustee Candidates**

**Candidate's Name:**

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**1004**

**1. What is the purpose of public education?**

The purpose of public education is to give the children the best possible start in life by giving them all the basics that they need to know to become successful.

**2. What skills do you believe students should learn in school?**

Children need to learn the basics that you use every day in life. The new technology is a must in this day and age but it also has its place. General skills are needed and seem to be kind of shoved to the back burner. A lot of the old fashioned skills are much needed in this day and age.

**3. Do you think there is an overreliance on technology in the Elementary Grades?**

Yes. I think a lot of hands on education is better in the Elementary Grades. Each kid should be evaluated as to what their learning level is and how to properly bring out the most in their early development. A computer can't judge if a student needs extra help or a challenged like a hands on teacher can.

**4. What role does the school have in providing non-academic services?**

It gives the kids a chance to explore areas that they might be interested in and would not have the opportunity to do it without the schools help.

**5. What is the role of parents in public education?**

Parents are the most important thing in public education. The schools are given the opportunity to teach the children but the parents are giving the schools permission to teach their children. They still are the deciding factor in what that child is going to learn because they belong to the parents not the school.

**6. How do you define the role of an individual board trustee?**

The role of the trustee is to follow the guidelines that are put in by state and federal statutes and implement them in the school district. The trustee is also in charge of getting the best possible education for the children that can be obtained and to be fiscally responsible for constituents that are paying taxes and contributing to the district.

**7. How do you define the role of the board of trustees?**

The board of trustees is a group of individuals that bring their ideas together to make the best possible decisions that are going to bring out the best results for the children, district, teachers, superintendent and constituents.

**8. How do you define the board's role in supporting the administration and teachers?**

The teachers are the foundation that are giving our children their education. They need to be able to have all the tools needed to be successful and it is the boards role to make sure that this happens. The administration is necessary to help make sure everything is done by the book and the board should have an open dialog with the administration as to what their ideas and thought processes that are best of the school.

**(a) How do you define the board's role in oversight of the administration and teachers?**

The board should be made aware of what is happening with the administration and the teachers. There is a proper chain of command to resolve things and it needs to be followed but the board also needs to be kept up to date on what is going on so they are not left in the dark about issues and can not make informed decisions when the need arises.

**(b) As a trustee, how would you reconcile those two roles?**

I would take the information that is presented and make my own decision. Then I could listen to the reasoning behind the other board members decisions and weigh them with what I thought my decision was going to be and hopefully make the best decision possible.

**9. What do you believe are the biggest threats to public education?**

Teachers not being able to just teach the kids without all the added on rules and regulations that they spend more time on than teaching. Also all the additional testing that is required for the students. Every time you turn around they are taking this aptitude test or achievement test. Only one is needed at the end of the year to see what they children have maintained and do not tie funding to the results of all those tests.

**10. Do you believe there are budgetary items where spending should be reduced or cut from the budget? If so, please identify those items and why.**

I haven't fully examined the budget at this time for an informed answer cannot be given at this time. I am sure upon further examination some excess spending can be found.

**11. Do you believe there are budgetary items where spending should be increased? If so, please identify those items and why.**

I haven't fully examined the budget at this time for an informed answer cannot be given at this time. I am sure there are some areas that could use some more funding to help make the programs go smoother.

**12. What can your district improve?**

Include all the towns in the district in the decision making. Arvada is kind of like the step child that's opinions mean nothing. They pay taxes just like Clearmont. I think

there could be better communication with the superintendent and the board. Maybe bring back some basic classes in the school that would help the children when they are ready to enter the real world, i.e. how to make out a job application, balance a check book, make a budget, learn cursive writing, business classes and other skills needed to be successful in life.

**13. What does your district do well?**

It works well with the children. The teachers really care about how the kids are doing and how they can help them be more successful.

**14. Are you okay with allowing licensed conceal and carry holders on and within school property with a firearm?**

**YES / NO (Circle One)**

**Why? No** Not without serious vetting. Not just some of the mill licensed conceal and carry holder without proper training or a background in law enforcement or military service.

**15. Are you willing to not accept federal funds if there are strings attached regarding gender identity such as: boys being in girl's bathrooms or locker rooms, males participating in women's sports, etc.?**

**YES / NO (Circle One)**

**Why? Yes** This shouldn't even be an issue that needs to be considered. Leave the genders as they have always been. It needs to stay out of our schools.