

Model Platform for Conservative School Board Candidates

- I. Parents First – Parents have the primary responsibility for the education of their children in accordance with their values and beliefs. This right is not only for parents choosing private or home schooling but also those utilizing public schools. Accordingly:
 - a. Students should not be provided medical or psychological services without parental consent.
 - b. Students should not be subject to intrusive and inappropriate questionnaires.
 - c. Students should not keep personal diaries shared with teachers but kept from parents.
 - d. Parental permission should be required for student participation in non-curricular clubs and activities.
 - e. Parents should have reasonable access to monitor curriculum and educational materials.
 - f. Parents should have reasonable opportunity to audit class teaching in a non-disruptive manner.
- II. Quality education, not PC fads – The purpose of public education should be to equip students with knowledge needed for life, not to indoctrinate them to certain political, religious and philosophical beliefs contrary to their parents' wishes. Accordingly:
 - a. Compliance with state mandated political indoctrination should be minimized.
 - b. Common Core “dumbing down” curricula should not be implemented.
 - c. Phonics and proven traditional methods are to be emphasized.
 - d. Not everyone needs to go to college just to get what used to be a high school education.
- III. Patriotism is not a dirty word – Teaching children to be ashamed of America and to want to be global citizens instead is wrong. Students in an American public school should be taught to appreciate and value the best parts of their heritage. If the majority of high school graduates think they would be better off under the kind of government and economy found in Cuba the schools are doing something wrong. Accordingly:
 - a. A balanced and accurate view of American history should be taught.
 - b. Students should understand the principles behind our founding documents.
 - c. Students should understand the basics of private property and the free market.
 - d. The student's identity as an American citizen should be emphasized over their identity as a member of a special interest group.
- IV. Financial responsibility – The finances of the school district should be managed for the benefit of the district's function and not for the benefit of special interests. Accordingly:
 - a. There should be no “off books” accounting. The current cost of funding promised pensions or other future obligations should be included in the current budget.
 - b. Bonds should only be used to fund long term assets such as building, not current expenses.
 - c. General cost-conscious, conservative spending policies should be followed, such as:
 - i. Competitive bidding.
 - ii. Transparency.
 - iii. Avoidance of conflict of interest.