

EL PASO COUNTY REPUBLICANS

2017 School Board Candidate Survey

Will Temby

Academy School District 20 (ASD20) Board of Education

Contact Information:

Name Will Temby
Address 3191 Promontory Peak Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80920
Telephone Number (303) 945-9876 (Cell)
E-Mail Address temby7co@gmail.com
Website willtemby4d20.com

Background Information:

Please provide a brief summary of you personally (family, education, occupation). (100 words or less)

I am married to Nan, have five children and been a resident of Colorado Springs for 23 years. B.S. degree from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Isenberg School of Management. Since 2011, I have owned a full-service staffing company (Apprentice Personnel), with offices in Colorado Springs, Denver, Kansas City and Wichita. My prior work experience includes being the President and CEO of the Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce for nearly eight years (2000-2007). I have also worked for the University of Colorado Foundation, consulted in higher education and spent 20 years in leadership positions in the hospitality industry.

Have you or any relatives been students or employees in the school district?

Circle one: Yes No

If so, please provide specifics. (25 words or less)

I have three graduates of ASD20 and two students currently attending Rampart High School. I have been an ASD20 parent for 23 consecutive years.

Have you ever served on a volunteer board? Circle one: Yes No

If so, what was/were your position(s)? (30 words)

I have been Board Chair of the PP Workforce Development Board, National Homeland Defense Foundation, Colorado Competitive Council, CS Leadership Institute, CS Sports Corporation and served on numerous other boards.

Survey Questions:

1. Why do you want to serve on the school board, and what do you see as your role as a school board member? (300 words or less)

There is no greater responsibility for society than to educate the next generation(s) of children to become critical thinking citizens with the requisite knowledge to thrive in a competitive world economy. For 23 consecutive years I have been a parent of five children who attended or are currently attending ASD20 and want the highest achieving large school district in Colorado to maintain and improve upon its status and reputation.

It is my belief that serving on a board of education is serious business. Thus, candidates for the ASD20 BOE should have keen knowledge of the district, have previously served in board leadership positions and possess different work leadership perspectives and experience. I have been a business leader for 35 years. I have served as a board chair at the local, state and national level.

My volunteer experience in ASD20 is as follows:

- Co-Chair, Yes on 3A Citizens Committee to promote passage of the district's \$230 million bond issue in November 2016. The issue was passed by 60% of the voters.
- District Accountability Committee (DAC), 2014-2017
- District Accountability Committee (DAC), Budget Sub-Committee, 2015-2017
- Growth and Capital Needs Committee, 2015-2016 (This committee reviewed the capital and IT infrastructure needs of every school in and major department of ASD20.)
- School Accountability Committee (SAC), Mountain Ridge Middle School, 2013-2017
- School Accountability Committee (SAC), Rampart High School, 2017

The ASD20 Board of Education employs a policy governance model. I have been trained on and have practiced policy governance. The BOE is responsible for setting policy and ends for the district. Administration is responsible for meeting those ends.

I believe that the BOE should also be deployed within the district to help administration understand what it does well and when it may possibly have a blind spot relative to how parents and other stakeholders perceive the performance of ASD20.

2. What role, if any should other government entities (city/county/state/federal) have in the local school board? (120 words or less)

I believe in local control. While general mandates or compliance issues may come from either the State of Colorado or the federal level, I believe the best decisions for students and their families are made at the local level within their school district.

3. What is the most critical issue in the district and how would you address them? (120 words or less)

Delivering a rigorous and relevant education to every one of the nearly 26,000 students in ASD20 is, and must continue to be, the most critical issue in the district. Using my background in business, workforce development and higher education, I will make sure that the district is not insular and is changing its curriculum to keep pace with our ever-changing world economy.

Through my 23 consecutive years of being a parent in the district and highly-engaged volunteer, I believe I have an understanding of the complexity of continually “raising the bar” with respect to educational outcomes.

4. What will your relationship be with associations/unions related to school employee? (50 words or less)

It is important for the BOE to be aware of the challenges, barriers and issues faculty and school administration face while trying to deliver a world-class education whether it be a regular, magnet or charter school. There is no union in ASD20. An association (AEA) could be that voice.

5. Have you received any campaign contributions from a school employee association/union? Circle one: Yes No

6. What is your position on school finance/funding? (250 words or less)

The state legislature has a constant challenge of balancing the needs that fall in the general fund; i.e., K-12 education, higher education, transportation, Corrections, Medicaid, etc. Amendment 23 raises the base for K-12 funding annually, but the enrollment growth of the 178 school districts outstrips the per pupil allocation to schools. The district-by-district formulas are not unreasonable in terms of how they were derived. However, what the state can afford versus that formula (Total Program Funding) has resulted in the “Negative Factor” or Budget Stabilization Factor. No school district is getting what its formula indicates that it should receive. Add to that the TABOR ratchet down effect and the Gallagher Amendment, and the state has a confluence of several amendments that are very difficult to amend or reverse.

I would work with our state delegation to continually stress the importance of K-12 funding to the future of Colorado and its competitiveness both domestically and internationally.

7. What is your position on public charter schools and their contribution to the district community? (200 words or less)

I am supportive of charter schools if they: meet a substantially unmet need in a district and their mission is unique and differentiated, they have considerable enrollment demand, and they are well-funded and well-governed. The Classical Academy (TCA) is the largest brick and mortar charter school in Colorado and has nearly 15% of the district's enrollment. ASD20, before it was statutorily required, shared mill levy override revenue with TCA and gave \$21 million of its recent \$230 million bond issue proceeds to TCA. My belief is that charter schools absolutely have their place if they meet the aforementioned criteria. TCA is an excellent charter school.

8. What is your position on parental choice for schools? (200 words or less)

Colorado is an open enrollment state and one of the most open states in the country for inter-district and intra-district choice. I am completely in favor of choice. My family invoked intra-district choice in ASD20 and "choiced" into schools that offered the International Baccalaureate program instead of having our kids attend what would have been their neighborhood schools.

It is fiscally responsible for a school district to accommodate choice students if there is an available seat. Per pupil funding comes with that student after annual count day on October 1st. This funding may be essential for a school to be able to continue to offer a specific program or programs or to help defray other operating costs.

9. What is your position on Common Core? (75 words or less)

No system is perfect and Common Core certainly has its proponents and opponents. I believe that it is important to have a generally accepted baseline of academic requirements whether your student resides in Colorado, Florida or Wisconsin. I have researched the pros and cons about Common Core. Broad stakeholders were part of the development of the Common Core standards. For now, it is the best starting point to develop a standard for U.S. public education.

10. What endorsements have you received? (100 words or less)

To date, I have endorsements from:

- Pikes Peak Association of REALTORS®
- Academy Education Association
- Lorne Kramer, CS Chief of Police/City Manager (Retired)
- Linda Van Matre, Director, ASD 20 Board of Education (Term Limited)
- Wendel Torres, Owner-Reliant Construction, Chair-PP Community Foundation, Active Community Leader and ASD20 Parent

- Lianne McNew, President and COO of McNew and Associates, Immediate Past Chair of PP Workforce Development Board, Colorado Workforce Development Council-Member and Community Leader
- Laurie Uddenberg, Parent Co-Chair of ASD20 District Accountability Committee and fellow Co-Chair of Yes on 3A Citizens Bond Committee, ASD20 Parent
- Heather Cloninger, District Accountability Committee, Bond Oversight Committee, ASD20 Parent