



EDUCATION ALLIANCE
OF COLORADO

Questionnaire Results

Falcon School District School Board 2021 Candidates

Do you agree or disagree with the idea that parents, not systems or institutions, are best positioned to select the school or educational services that best meet the needs of their children? Why or why not?

Deborah Vicino: Parents are absolutely best positioned to select the school or educational services that best meet the needs of their children. Systems and institutions do their best to serve our children, but parents need to be involved, advocate and speak up when that system has failed. Most children fit in the educational system “box”, but many do not, and parents need to know they have many choices when it comes to schools and programs in which to enroll their children. As a board member, I would like to ensure parents know their choices.

Amy Doran: No response

Jarrett Roberts: No response

Nancy Rumfelt: No response

Alexandra Lessem: No response

Blake Law: No response

Barbara Kruse: No response

Lisa Winbourn: No response

Should students in your school district have the unrestricted ability to attend a charter school or other public school of choice if their families so choose? Why or why not?

Deborah Vicino: ABSOLUTELY! Schools are not “One size fits all” institutions, and parents should have the right to control what their children are and are not exposed to. They also have a right to choose the institution they believe will provide the best education for their child. I believe in the free market system, and that competition only strengthens private and public institutions.

Amy Doran: No response

Jarrett Roberts: No response

Nancy Rumfelt: No response

Alexandra Lessem: No response

Blake Law: No response

Barbara Kruse: No response

Lisa Winbourn: No response



Do you believe that public charter schools or other choice schools should have the flexibility to operate autonomously within the bounds of state law, including through waivers of certain local district or board policies? Why or why not?

Deborah Vicino: Yes Yes YES. Most public schools tend to focus more on compliance than academic excellence. Charter schools, on the other hand, are successful because are free from the bureaucracy, regulations, procedural “hoops”, and paperwork that are pervasive in the public school system. With more time to focus on academics, teachers can focus on teaching and reaching high academic standards for their students. Waivers? I’m a fan. The money should follow the student. There should be absolutely be school choice for parents with children in poorly performing or failing public schools.

Amy Doran: No response

Jarrett Roberts: No response

Nancy Rumfelt: No response

Alexandra Lessem: No response

Blake Law: No response

Barbara Kruse: No response

Lisa Winbourn: No response

If elected, how do you plan to support both new and existing public-school options—charter, magnet, online, specialty, etc.—in your school district?

Deborah Vicino: I welcome and encourage people to submit charter applications to our district and provide parents with much needed school choice. To date, we have only one private school and two charter schools in our district, the last of which opened in 2011. This does NOT provide much choice for the parents in our district. I would love to see more magnet programs and charter schools in our schools which, again, provides more choice for our district. Sending quarterly surveys to parents, teachers, and taxpayers is one way to take the “pulse” of our community and to discern parental and community concerns. Encouraging community involvement and providing resources to community members interested in opening Charter Schools is a must.

Amy Doran: No response

Jarrett Roberts: No response

Nancy Rumfelt: No response

Alexandra Lessem: No response

Blake Law: No response

Barbara Kruse: No response

Lisa Winbourn: No response



As a school board member, how will you balance the needs and priorities of the district itself against the needs and priorities of families, students, and communities?

Deborah Vicino: I truly believe the two must go hand in hand. If we fail to take into consideration the needs and priorities of families, students, and communities, how then can we adequately address the priorities of the district? School board members are charged with representing the values of their communities, and that must be as significant a priority as determining curriculum and overseeing the budget. We must communicate with the community through public discourse and written reports so that the public is informed of the district's progress and challenges. Again, surveying all stakeholders quarterly will help us understand the needs and concerns of everyone involved in the education process.

Amy Doran: No response

Jarrett Roberts: No response

Nancy Rumfelt: No response

Alexandra Lessem: No response

Blake Law: No response

Barbara Kruse: No response

Lisa Winbourn: No response