

Malcolm Setter responses

Candidate for Fort McMurray Public School Trustee

1. The overwhelming response that I have received from teachers and parents is that the curriculum has missed the mark. I believe that continued feedback is essential and that the concerns and assessments by the stakeholders be reported back to the Government of Alberta. While some subjects may have an acceptable base to be improved upon, others will need to be completely revamped in order to give students appropriate and valuable education. Rolling out a full curriculum is daunting, and I believe a staged approach, updating subjects one at a time, would be the most beneficial. This would enable transparency and an adequate feedback loop, allowing us to deliver the educational program that our students deserve.

2. With the new funding model recently introduced (a three-year rolling average formula), growing districts are faced with the challenge of insufficient funding. In conjunction, a large Provincial deficit and reduced revenues causes great concern about the future of education funding.

I believe that the local school boards should maintain authority to make funding decisions, rather than at a larger provincial or national level. The local school board would be able to receive direct feedback from those most impacted by the budget and would, therefore, be able to make the most appropriate decisions.

3/4/5. Essentially the answers to questions 3/4/5 would have all been the same: As a new trustee candidate running for the first time, I do not yet have all the information to fully understand the decision being made in those areas. I would need to spend time with the impacted parties and be able to ask questions to be able to answer them with authenticity.

6. I support the prevention and spread of Covid-19, and each district must make decisions to properly ensure the safety of their staff and students. I support staff and eligible students in making the decision to obtain the vaccine.