

## **Marcia Hole Responses**

### **Candidate for Edmonton Public School Trustee Ward C**

1. Do you agree with calls to scrap the draft curriculum and start over to develop a curriculum that is accurate in capturing Alberta's colonial history, diverse present, and modernized to reflect the world we live in?

I most certainly do. The draft is regressive, inappropriate and inadequate in so many ways. It completely ignores the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action (specifically #62) and is a missed opportunity to advance reconciliation and fulfill our obligations as treaty people.

2. Do you believe the current education funding formula is sufficient for your district? If not, how will you work to convince the province to provide sustainable and adequate funding?

The current Weighted Moving Average funding model is not sufficient for our district. It disproportionately and negatively affects large metro boards with growing populations. It is one of the many ways in which the province has made it difficult to assess the scope of cuts to public education. Much advocacy, and many voices are needed on this issue. I will work with all trustees to advocate for adequate and sustainable funding. I also plan to engage with parents, and the 70% of Albertans who don't have children in school, to help them understand how funding cuts to public education affect us all, now and for years to come. I will invite them to join us in our advocacy.

3. Will you oppose privatization of school services and infrastructure, including Public-Private-Partnerships aka P3s? Will you support bringing previously privatized services in-house?

I will. Putting public interest in the hands of business and private operators does not serve us well with regards to building and maintaining schools. The argument that P3s save taxpayer dollars has been shown by several Auditors General, across the country, to be false.

4. Will you support your employees and your community by ensuring the school board employs staff with living wages, full-time hours where desired, job security, and collective bargaining rights?

Yes. Advocating for the rights of educators and all support staff in our schools is essential. They play a vital role in ensuring that our students have safe, supportive learning environments.

5. Will you oppose attempts from the provincial government to legislate against school staff including cuts to the Local Authorities Pension Plan, or restrictions on their right to strike?

I will work to protect all school staff and their right to advocate, and make decisions, for themselves.

6. Do you support measures such as mask mandates, and vaccine mandates for staff to limit and reduce the spread of COVID-19 in your schools?

Yes. I feel protecting students, families and staff must be our top priority. Mask and vaccine mandates not only protect schools and communities, but also our healthcare system. Mandates are vital in keeping schools open.