



The following questions were emailed to candidates on February 10. Responses received by the deadline of February 20 are included in our evaluation. No edits were made to any responses.

Julie Kulovits (District 200)

Do you believe your school's current Health Education curriculum should include age-appropriate sex education? What do you see as the strengths and/or areas needing improvement in this curriculum?

Yes, I do believe that a health education curriculum should include age-appropriate education on sexual health. CUSD 200's health curriculum - consistent with other area districts - does currently include instruction on sexual health. While I believe CUSD 200 does a good job of introducing topics in an age-appropriate manner (e.g., the focus for younger learners is on identifying safe and trusted adults, sexual abuse prevention, etc.), our curriculum has not changed in about a decade. In that span of time, children have greater access to electronic devices that bring about a whole new set of risks. Incorporating cyber safety lessons would also be a useful addition.

What is your position on the renewal of the Invest in Kids Scholarship Tax Credit Program? Do you favor state tax credits or vouchers for use by families to send children to private schools? If so, how do you feel this will affect public schools?

I do not favor state tax credits or vouchers. Such systems divert funds away from public schools in a way that disproportionately harms both low-income students and those with disabilities who might not have the option to attend private school (even with a voucher). These students then have less resources available to meet their educational needs.

What, if any, is the role of the Board in the selection of materials for school libraries and curriculum development?

The board's most important role is to focus on establishing processes and ensuring that those processes are led by subject matter experts in the district. Apart from this, the board should not import its individual personal preferences in these decisions. Those decisions should rest in the professional expertise of the subject matter experts within the district.