

Watchmen Voter Guide for North Idaho College, Trustee Zone 3

** Click on each candidate's name to see their completed questionnaire **

Question	<u>Todd M. Banducci</u>
2. How could North Idaho College be improved? Please provide your top 2-3 ideas.	Continue with the expansion of the nursing building & program. Add additional collaborative efforts with the Kootenai Technical Education Campus (KTEC). Grow and add to our Career & Technical Education (CTE) offerings and programs.
3. What is your educational philosophy and how do you plan to implement this philosophy as a member of the board of trustees?	Back to basics! Instruction should consist of the core, fundamental courses required for each specific degree/certificate. It needs to be efficient and without political overtones and/ or indoctrination. A review of required course curriculum would be a good start.
4. Do you support "Critical Race Theory," why or why not?	No. It is an abomination that turns people against each other based on the color of their skin. It divides rather than uniting.
5. If faced with a budget deficit, would you support cutting spending or increasing student fees or tuition? What would be your reasons for this decision?	I am both a fiduciary (by trade & practice) & a fiscal conservative. My first choice would be to cut spending. As I do in my business, NIC can better control costs than revenue.
6. How do you view the role as a trustee member in regard to public policy like taxes?	It needs to be transparent. Every decision needs to take into account its impact on both the students & the public (taxpayers). We need to speak with and listen to the community.
7. Do you support the ability for employee unions to automatically deduct money from their members' paychecks to finance political activities, why or why not?	No. Compulsory contributions should be illegal. In fact, a number of court cases have come to this very same conclusion. Unfortunately, the unions keep ignoring the court decisions. Everyone should have a choice as to what they do with their earnings. No one should be forced to support what they disagree with.
8. Do you support or oppose bathroom and locker room usage based on preferred gender identification? Why or why not?	I oppose it. It is a very slippery slope that we are best not to start down. There can be many resultant issues to this practice, including legal, safety, etc. In the same way a person born a male should only compete against other males athletically, a male should only use male facilities.
9. In what ways can North Idaho College help local high school students prepare for a college education or for a trade school?	Better training for & engagement with junior high & high school counselors regarding higher education choices & options. Need them to embrace equivalency between CTE & academic transfer programs as recommendations for the kids' futures. Ask them how we can help with this & what information about NIC we can provide.
10. What is your opinion regarding freedom of choice for parents for the education of their children (School choice)?	I support school choice. The money should follow the student. Competition is good – succeed or not based on merit.
11. How would you, as a trustee, create opportunities for an education more equitable towards students coming from a private or homeschool background?	Need to properly recognize & credit the educations these students have received. Honor GEDs equally. Provide accurate & equitable placement exams. Equal footing for grants & scholarships
12. What does the term "education" mean to you?	A free, balanced & equal exchange of ideas. An open, respected dialogue on any subject or topic. No politicization or indoctrination. Teach core & necessary subjects and/ or skills. Guide/teach students how to independently think for themselves.
13. Do you support or oppose the legalization of marijuana? Why or why not?	I oppose it. I don't consider it wise to legally allow a mind & person altering substance. It is a danger in my estimation. However, CBD oil & Hemp are both a different subject to be further explored.
14. What is your background and why does it qualify you for this position?	Current incumbent. I feel my eight years on the board gives me a pretty good handle on NIC's operations. As a fiduciary, I work hard to instill a fiscal discipline & restraint.