


Watchmen Voter Guide for Kootenai Joint School District - Zone 1
** Click on each candidate's name to see their completed questionnaire **

	<u>Dr. Richard Meyer</u>	<u>Heather Wilcox</u>
1. What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	Dr. Richard Meyer, Kootenai School District # 272 (Harrison, ID), Zone 1 – Looking to get <u>re-elected</u> .	My name is Heather Wilcox. I am currently the Kootenai 274 Zone 1 Trustee. I am running to maintain this position in order to continue learning and serving my community. I am a stay at home mother of four children in the school district from grades 1-9. It is important for me to continue to get off the bench and be actively involved in the education system of our community's children.
2. How could your school district be improved? Please provide your top 2-3 ideas.	#1. Attract & Retain great teachers #2. Offer career guidance starting high school; expose to trade school options besides college!	I am grateful for the opportunity that we have to live in Idaho, and for the school boards to have the local abilities that they do to make decisions with their community. What I am hoping to improve over the next four years is an increase in collaboration between students, parents and staff when it comes to decision making. I have been excited to see the movement in not only our area, but across the nation in regards to students and parents finding their voices. I believe that as this determination increases and trust is gained, that school spirit can continue to increase. I also believe there are opportunities to support students and staff with more extracurriculars and technical program offerings.
3. What is your educational philosophy and how do you plan to implement this philosophy as a member of the board of trustees?	I have already brought in career guidance through iCEV media career guidance videos. I work with the teachers to make sure that they are fairly compensated.	I was the oldest of four siblings, which resulted in me having to not only decide what I wanted for my educational future, but also making it happen on my own. There was not a lot of funds or knowledge to take me straight from being a high school graduate to a 4 year university. This enabled me to set goals that were important to me and find creative solutions to achieve them. I worked full time while going to college in the evenings in order to gain my Bachelors of Science in Accounting. This is a process to an accomplishment that has served me well into my life as being not only a business owner, but also with my children. I believe that education is not one size fits all. Each child and each teacher is different in beautiful ways. It is important that those differences are celebrated and navigated to the best ability provided. I would like to continue to encourage students, teachers and parents to feel confident, safe and challenged in their school experience. Whether this involves more communication, or additional programs to broaden horizons etc.

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4. Do you support "Critical Race Theory," why or why not?	CRT is poison. It teaches students to hate each other and become activists.	I do not support Critical Race Theory. I believe we are all made in God's image. To separate from that knowledge with ideologies that go against it is not in my belief system.
5. Would you support adding diversity, equity, and inclusion to the school curriculum? Why or why not?	No way! This again teaches students to be activists and not to be productive citizens. This is Marxist teachings	I would not support adding diversity, equity and inclusion to the school curriculum. Schools already have a code of conduct when it comes to expected behavior and not facilitating bullying, etc. This is something that is a human golden rule that should cover everyone.
6. What is your view on the growth of Charter Schools?	Excellent! Provides competition for regular schools. It boosts achievement and teaches excellent values.	Going back to my experience with one size does not fit all, I do appreciate parents and students having options for how they would like their children to be educated.
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, this should be a free choice.	I do not support the ability for employee unions to automatically deduct money from their members checks to finance political activities. I believe it is an individual decision for each employee.
8. Do you support or oppose bathroom and locker room usage based on preferred gender identification? Why or why not?	Not at all. This is insanity! Keep inherited genders separate!	I support men's/boys restroom/locker room and women/girls. Not off ideological ideas but biology.
9. How should counselors work with parents to resolve issues with their children?	Yes! Parents rights come first.	I think that when a counselor is working with a child the parent should always be notified and  involved in each and every process.
10. What is your opinion on students being able to receive an abortion without parental notification?	Parents have wisdom with age. Students are too young to understand the full impact of these decisions.	I do not support the ability for a student to obtain an abortion without parental consent.

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11. Do you support the 1619 project? Why or why not?	This is fabricated history and has no place in education	I do not support the 1619 Project.
12. In what circumstances should students be able to receive mental health assistance without parental notification?	None! This is again a parents rights issue. The only exception is a court order.	Mental health assistance of a student should involve parental notification.
13. Who has the responsibility for the education of children?	The parents!	Overall parents have the responsibility to educate their children. Teachers and the school district are a tool in their tool box to do that.
14. What is the goal of education?	Provide the basic knowledge for students to become productive citizens	The goal of education is to be a place for students to interact, learn, grow, have confidence in their abilities and become critical thinkers.
15. Do you support or oppose the legalization of marijuana? Why or why not?	No, it's a gateway to harder drugs. It also has long term health consequences.	I oppose the legalization of marijuana.
16. What is your background and why do you feel it qualifies you for this position?	I have been very successful as an industrial leader and can mentor students in their educational choices. I also teach management at Texas Tech which helps in motivating teachers to do their best – like recognition for academic achievements.	I am a mom of four students in the district in all three levels of school. I work hard to help them to grow and be the best versions of their potential, be respectful, be kind, have grace, challenge themselves, and stay humble. I have seen the teachers for all of my kids and those in their classes and on their sports teams go above and beyond with love and care. I genuinely love North Idaho. I love Kootenai 274. I do come with a Bachelors in Accounting, a small business owner, and over ten years of financial institution experience. In the end I am a community member, parent and a current board member for Zone 1 who is passionate about our teachers, and I am excited to see the kids grow and succeed. I am humbled and honored to have this opportunity to run to maintain my seat.