

# Blue Valley USD #229 Board of Education 2021

Response ID:8 Data

## 1. Candidate Information

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### 1. Candidate Name

Kaety Bowers

### 2. Candidate for Board Seat #

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### 3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 5434 W 140th St

City/State/Zip : Overland Park, KS 66224

### 4. Phone Number

913-735-6756

### 5. Email Address

Kaety.bowers@protonmail.com

### 6. Campaign Website

www.kaetyforbluevalley.com

## 2. Candidate Background

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### 7. Occupation/Work History (last 5 years - 25 words or less)

I own and operate The Tinted Room which is a Cosmetic Tattoo establishment that specializes in helping cancer survivors and empowering women.

### 8. If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held.

### 9. Other recent political/community experience (50 words or less)

I have coached youth volleyball through Blue Valley Rec for 6+ years.

## 3. Issues and Policy

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### 10. As a candidate, what are your top three education policy issues? (100 words or less)

1. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE: Focus on core subjects free from social/political ideologies or propaganda. Smaller class sizes.
2. BACK TO BASICS: phonics based reading, in-depth writing instruction, content rich materials.
3. COVID: Masks and vaccines optional. No COVID Trackers. Board accountability and transparency.

### 11. The Kansas Supreme Court ruled the current K-12 education funding formula is both equitable and adequate. The Court, however, has retained jurisdiction over the case to assure funding is maintained. What are your thoughts on the formula and additional funding that has been added? (100 words or less)

We need to look at how to maximize our funding for students and teachers.

### 12. The K-12 education system requires accountability measures for student performance, which have sometimes been a

**source of debate. Please describe the accountability measures you support and believe are accurately reflective of student achievement. (100 words or less)**

I personally believe that in Blue Valley we are capable of 90+ percent proficiency in math and reading. Our current accountability measures do not reflect our capabilities which is disappointing. Whatever our district deems appropriate for student success should be honest and unbiased and supported by our front line educators. Therefore, if our accountability measures are inadequate or in opposition to our educators, I would seek to find new measures that would give us a clearer picture of student achievements.

**13. Kansas is experiencing low unemployment rates and employers are struggling to find qualified workers, especially in technical and skilled trades. How do you see the school district helping to meet the business community's future workforce needs through technical education and training? (100 words or less)**

I have personally acquired many trade certificates. I believe that Kansas educational institutions should promote and foster all levels of education and occupational options for students.

Blue Valley will be offering High School trade certification programs in a few years and should continue along this path.

**14. Other than funding, what do you see as the greatest challenge facing the school district? (100 words or less)**

I believe that transparency in all aspects has been diminished with regards to all levels of communication related to students, parents and curriculum. We should return to focusing on education and preparing our students for a successful future. Our kids and students only stand to benefit from gaining a solid educational foundation; free from extraneous and biased agendas.

**15. Why are you seeking this public office? (100 words or less)**

My husband and I have six children, all of which are currently attending or have graduated from a Blue Valley school. We have resided in Blue Valley for 12 years and having been closely involved with all of them, I have noticed a need for improved, transparent and passionate leadership that will fight to deliver all Blue Valley students the excellent educational experience that they deserve.

**16. What makes you uniquely qualified to serve on the Board and most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race? (100 words or less)**

I'm a parent to six children, first and foremost. We've lived in the Blue Valley School District for 12 years and I have been intimately involved with all levels K-12 during that time.

I've used my strong academic foundation and my support system to become a successful business owner which makes me sensitive to the impact of taxes and the desire to maximize their footprint.

Ultimately the passion that I have as a mother in Blue Valley is what drives and distinguishes me to make certain that all of our children have the best possible outcome.