

# De Soto USD #232 Board of Education 2021

Response ID:10 Data

## 1. Candidate Information

### 1. Candidate Name

Amy Parker

### 2. Candidate for Board Seat #

Position 5

### 3. Address

Street Address/Apt/Suite : 23404 W. 46th St.

City/State/Zip : Shawnee

### 4. Phone Number

9132195498

### 5. Email Address

amyparker@everestkc.net

### 6. Campaign Website

## 2. Candidate Background

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

I was a Speech Pathologist for 5 years before I married and had children. Currently, I work in Dentistry and have been for 8 years.

### 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.

Not applicable.

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

I have served in two ministries at my local church: Special Needs (3-4 years) and Hospitality (3-4 years). I have also worked for a church cooking food for children between 2 to 5 years of age for few years.

## 3. Issues and Policy

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

1. I feel we need to get back to the basics of education and make decisions to get our kids ready for career and life.
2. We need to avoid forcing healthcare decisions on our students and families with regard to the Covid-19 pandemic.
3. We need to reject any teaching based on hate-filled, race-based curriculum similar to Critical Race Theory, that teaches children to hate each other based on the color of their skin.

### 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)

I think the important part of any government budget is to use the tax payer funds as wisely and efficiently as possible. I will cut what is not needed, look for places to become more efficient, and focus on what is best for the children of our district.

**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 believe we need to look at how to direct the focus of our teaching so that when our students graduate, they rank academically as well as anyone in the country. Accountability measures are important, but actually doing the work to get kids ready for college or the trade industries should be the real focus.

**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)**

We should explore what it takes to teach trade classes geared to meet the demand in the workforce for the students who are interested in those trades for a career.

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

The greatest challenge facing our school district is changing the belief that the forcing of unwanted behaviors on our students is acceptable. Specifically, students should not be required to wear a mask now that students and teachers who want to be vaccinated have that choice. I also believe it is imperative that we do not force race-focused, hate-filled, curriculum on our students such as Critical Race Theory where we would be teaching our children to hate each other based on the color of their skin.

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

I care about the children. They need a voice. I was inspired by children, teachers, and families across the country who are fed up with school boards. It appears that our government is comfortable shutting down schools and forcing children to wear masks and our school boards are designed to enforce and carryout these suggestions. Now, the government is recommending our children inject experimental vaccines and I believe healthcare decisions should be made by the individual and their doctor, not the school board.

**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 care about these children and young adults. I will keep what is best in mind for them with each and every decision I would make as a board member.