



1. Please list your website and email address.

Website: AnneMarieForBOE.com

Email: AnneMarieForBOE@gmail.com

2. What is your vision for Douglas County School District?

As a former educator with seven years classroom experience, I am passionate about the invaluable role thriving public schools play in the future success of our children, communities and nation. I believe every child has the right to an exceptional public school experience that offers a variety of well-researched programming to meet his or her diverse needs. I support providing professional educators with the resources necessary to provide an authentic, high-quality learning environment for our students. I am dedicated to ensuring our tax dollars are spent wisely on the maintenance of our current district and school building properties as well as efficiently meeting the requirements of our growing student body. I have the skills, background knowledge and energy necessary to move our school district forward by setting and meeting fiscally healthy and educationally strong goals. I will work diligently to ensure the Douglas County School Board is meeting the needs of our students, as well as its responsibility to the community.

My Vision:

FOCUS on our student's educational needs:

- Target immediate classroom needs to provide a safe and productive learning environment.
- Provide well-researched resources for educators to use in the classrooms.
- Offer a variety of programming options for all students.

BUILD employee and community trust:

- Survey parents to clearly understand the educational needs of families.
- Survey school administrators and teachers to formulate policies to meet best education practices and create a respectful working environment.
- Seek community input.

ENSURE fiscal responsibility:

- Create and maintain accountable, accurate and transparent budgeting.

- Use the majority of public tax dollars to directly benefit and positively impact student learning.
- Safeguard our students and investments as outlined in the district Master Capital Plan.

3. What is your plan for managing Douglas County School District's capital needs?

I will work with the Long Range Planning Committee to identify needs. I also believe a survey of our community, parents and employees is imperative to gather the necessary information for needs going forward. I would fully support placing a bond on the ballot to meet maintenance, safety and growth needs of our schools. I would take the necessary steps to inform the community of capital issues regarding our aging schools and preparing for future growth.

4. What is your vision on meeting the needs of special education students?

I am very concerned about the cuts being made to our special needs students. Although I am not privy to all the issues surrounding Sped family and educators' concerns, I believe we may need to develop a task force to look into how the cuts have affected our ability to not only follow the law, but also meet all our students diverse needs in this district. I also believe we need to fully vet and question current proposals regarding a K-8 Sped school that are being made. I do not feel our current leadership has responsibly considered community input.

5. What is your vision for retaining and recruiting highly qualified teachers?

We must survey teachers, Principals and staff as soon as possible to get the necessary feedback regarding the flawed evaluation and pay system currently being used in DCSD. I do not believe the current salary band and pay structure are working. The high turnover rate of teachers and Principal should give us all great concern. Building a system of trust will be a priority. We cannot attract and retain professional educators if they do not feel valued and respected.

6. What should be the role of political parties in school board elections? Have you accepted the endorsement of a political party, or any other organization? Have you accepted funds from any source other than private citizens?

I do not feel any board candidate should seek or accept the endorsement of any political party in our non-partisan school board elections. I have not accepted the endorsement or funding of any political party or special interest group other than Douglas County Parents. Please see below for further explanation of my decision regarding endorsements.

Many community members have asked me why I am not asking for or accepting the Republican endorsement for the school board race. I feel strongly that School Board members should make decisions based on facts rather than partisan ideals. I also take the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) election rules seriously. My job as your next school board director will be to represent all students and taxpayers interests through responsible and diligent research while considering any spending or policy changes.

For further understanding please go to the CASB.org website and visit the 2015 Elections School Board Candidate Guide. The following are a few excerpts I used to make my refusal of party endorsement decision.

CASB School Board Candidate Guide: 2015 Elections

What is a school board?

The local school board grew out of the town meeting, dating back more than 200 years to the original 13 colonies. Times have changed, but the basic function of school boards today remains the same: to provide local citizen control over public education. This means that the school board should represent the citizens of

the school district – not just some of the citizens, but all of them. Because different people have different ideas about schools, this responsibility always presents a challenge.

1. **Code of ethics for board members** Adopted in 1999, the Code of Ethics of the National School Boards Association provides: As a member of my local board of education, I will strive to improve public education, and to that end I will:

- *Render all decisions based on the available facts and my independent judgment and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups.*
- *Avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest and refrain from using my board position for personal or partisan gain.*
- *Remember always that my first and greatest concern must be the educational welfare of the students attending the public schools.*

Eligibility: "...Because school director elections are nonpartisan, candidates may not campaign as members of a political party."

***I will accept the endorsement of any individual who supports my vision as outlined on my website.**

Please visit annemarieforboe.com

***I will also accept the endorsement of the non-partisan, local, all-volunteer organization Douglas County Parents**

7. Do you agree with the current board's decision to attempt to bring the voucher case to the US Supreme Court? Why?

No. I believe the Colorado Supreme Court made the right decision.

About Taxpayers for Public Education:

Taxpayers for Public Education, (TFPE), is a Colorado-based, bi-partisan, 501c4 organization. The members are Colorado taxpayers and parents of children enrolled in public schools. TFPE supports public education and believes that a strong public education system is instrumental in building and maintaining an extraordinary workforce that will keep American companies and American entrepreneurship viable and robust to meet the challenges in the years ahead. For more information, please visit:

www.taxpayersforpubliceducation.org.