



1. Please list your website and email address.

Webpage: Davidrayforboe.com

Email: draysdg@gmail.com

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

My vision is for students in Douglas County Schools to receive a solid academic foundation that includes literacy, problem solving, higher-level thinking, mental wellness, and ability to collaborate and show compassion to others. The District's decision-making process needs to be based on what is best for ALL children. This can be accomplished through a continual feedback loop from employees, students, parents and community members.

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

Our Long Range Planning Committee has had a long history of providing the District with researched recommendations regarding the management of capital needs. These recommendations are based on the expertise of staff as well as the input of the community. Given the thoroughness by which this committee works to ensure best practices and accurate recommendations, I would accept them accordingly. Their current recommendation is that we have an urgent need to address critical building issues that are interfering with the learning of our students. The LRPC recommends that we take advantage of an opportunity to resolve these issues with minimal cost to our taxpayers. My response, "Recommendations accepted. Let's ask the voters for their support."

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

Having been a principal for 23 years I have seen first hand what happens when we shift our thinking from meeting the needs of a specific population to meeting the needs of ALL students. I have had the privilege to be a leader in several schools where every student was valued as a unique treasure and therefore deserving of support for these needs to be met. Whether special needs, gifted and talented, students who speak English as a second language – we begin with looking at how to support them within their classroom community. A continuum of services should be provided that includes additional human support in the classroom to intensive small group or individual services briefly out of the classroom. The key is that all learners, regardless of need, receive the resources and support that they need to be successful. The Law protects our students with special needs to learn in the least restrictive environment possible. This should be the vision for all our students.

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

First and foremost, teacher retention is accomplished by providing a trusting culture where expertise is honored and collaboration is a priority. The research on employee retention shows that individuals who enjoy who they work with are more likely to stay with this organization regardless of the other factors (e.g. compensation, benefits, advancements, etc.). Teachers need to be fairly compensated and given equal

opportunities for advancement. This includes quality professional development that inspires and equips ALL teachers to strive to become “highly qualified.” But most importantly, teachers need to be given multiple opportunities to influence the way our students are educated. They are trained professionals who understand research-based instructional practices. We need to remove obstacles that prevent them from practicing their craft and distract their focus from the development of all students.

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?

School board elections are nonpartisan and therefore, political party influences are unacceptable. I have refused invitations by political parties and the union to be considered for their endorsements. I have only accepted funds from private citizens.

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

I do not agree with the current board’s decision. The State ruled that the program was unconstitutional. Education is a State function. Therefore, requesting intervention from the Federal level is in direct opposition to the intent that education is under the authority of the State. Appealing to the Supreme Court is a waste of valuable resources and a distraction to where the focus should be – on our students.

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.