



1. Please list your website, email address, Facebook page name, twitter account, or any other means a voter may contact you.

Website: <https://kevinfordcschools.com>

email address: kevinfordcschools@gmail.com

Facebook page name: <https://www.facebook.com/KevinforDCschools/>

twitter account: @kevinfordcboard

2. What role should private schools play in a publicly-funded school system? Should taxpayer dollars support private schools? How do you feel about the trend toward privatizing our public education system through education savings accounts?

Private schools serve a niche in our education system by providing students and parents a choice to go to religious schools, single-sex schools, or schools with a more flexible curriculum. I support parents sending their child to a private school, if that is their desire. However, I do not support using public taxpayer money to pay for private school tuition. Because the BOE is the custodian of public funds and our public schools currently do not have enough funding, we cannot afford to divert resources to private schools and jeopardize the quality of public education options. Furthermore, once public money is diverted to private institutions, our school board has no ability to protect the civil rights of students and demand the level of accountability expected from our public schools. Also, Education Savings Accounts take funds away from Colorado public schools. There are 178 school districts in Colorado. Over 100 districts have less than 1000 students. Public schools are vital to rural communities. Additional school funding losses could mean the destruction of those school districts or severely degrade the performance for those schools. Without good public schools, these communities will have a hard time attracting potential businesses and residents. ESAs will also disproportionately affected children living in poverty. An ESA may pay for tuition, but the poor may not be able to afford transportation, uniforms, lunch or other needs to go to other schools. ESAs creates a 2-tier system and further divide our communities.

3. Do you support DCSD's attempts to enact a voucher program?

I do not support using public taxpayer money to fund the DCSD Choice Scholarship Program. As I mentioned above, I support parents sending their child to a private school, if that is their desire. However, there are too many drawbacks for me to support taking public funds to fund private school tuition.

4. Please define your view on how the "public" fits into our public education system?

The word "public" in public education means that we the people who live in the community will make the decisions for our kids' education. That decision making is most likely through the locally elected school board. The word "public" also means that our schools will be publicly funded and tuition free and will not discriminate against anyone who lives in this community. Our public education system should provide equal educational opportunities no matter race, religion or social or economic status. We, the public, will hold elected officials accountable on how to spend our public dollars. Public input is important in their decision-making process.

Taxpayers for Public Education (TFPE) is a Colorado based non-partisan 501(c)(4) organization. The mission of TFPE is to support and advocate for public education. TFPE does not endorse candidates or political campaigns.