

## **Dave Low responses**

### **Candidate for Lethbridge Public School Trustee**

#### 1. Curriculum.

I agree with calls to fix the Curriculum so that the information is accurate and relevant to the ages being taught.

I do not agree with any calls to inject "colonialism" in the light that colonials are evil and therefore eternally the villains. If colonialism taught in the light of what it was in proper context from all perspectives of those during that time, I am supportive.

#### 2. Funding:

Private schools are only funded in Alberta if they meet very specific terms. To suggest that they all are funded by the taxpayer is completely inaccurate and misleading.

If enough taxpayers want to start a school because they want to worship God more, and are willing to follow the rules established by the government, they have that right. Residential schools were wrong because we didn't let the Indigenous People celebrate and learn in their own environment. We forced them out of private and into public. Private schools that involve public funds should have a right to exist so as to maintain the diversity within Alberta, and respect the differences. Efforts to blanket Private schools into one whole are misleading. There are many categories and only one qualifies for public funding. Efforts to eliminate Private schools are no different than the Efforts to force Indigenous People into the public way of thinking.

Private schools deserve a place in our province.

Due to zero risk, and zero incentive, it is a well known fact in the scholarly world that governments are the worst examples of efficiency within organizations.

Finding inefficiencies with allocation of funds to avoid cuts and maximize budgets won't be hard. Looking at the spending of maintenance departments and how much is spent on small medial tasks is outrageous. Let's spend less on painting an office or classroom and take use that money to avoid cutting the teachers assistant.

Let's put more financial accountability onto the private. They are the ones taking advantage.

They can do things for less. I know because I run a Contracting company and have done plenty for the government.

#### 3. Privatization.

I respectfully disagree with the statement that "privatization regularly fails to find "efficiencies" and any cost savings are often off the backs of workers who become deunionized, with lower pay and benefits".

Privatization is the reason why businesses are run efficiently. Why? The answer is in risk.

Without risk of financial, mental, and physical ruin, where does the incentive to be more a efficient organization come from?

If any lack of efficiency exists its because that specific privately run business has not reached that level yet. But that does not mean private businesses are inefficient. They are much more efficient than public.

Without the incentive, which doesn't exist without risk, efficiency is out the window. See your local city project with 10 city workers around one hole if you want an example.

In the light of unionized workers specific to education, it is a publicly funded organization with no risk. Who has the risk of financial failure and ruin on them? Efficiency, if any, only exists because of specific individuals. Not because of environment. Individuals who try to be efficient in their specific role because they value their time, and don't want to be working longer than they need to. Whether that individual is a teacher, principle, or politician, they can work efficiently, which benefits their own time and good feeling, but doesn't make costs go down.

In regards to the statement about high turnover, low wage providers, what specific industry are we talking about? Each one is completely different with their own sets of challenges. "High turnover" should not be said in the light of "private businesses all suck and are the reason behind it". High turnover has many aspects that are industry specific, and alot have nothing to do with the employer.

I will not oppose p3's. I do not support bringing in public workers and spending more \$\$ to eliminate private jobs. Without risk, incentive to keep costs at bay and run efficiently will make it much, much more costly.

A growing public over private sector is a recipe for a major financial crisis in our province. Suggesting that the public sector is somehow shielded from recessions in the private sector (brought on by the public sector) is a comment that does not consider the realities of economics and fiscal responsibility.

4. I fully support existing teachers and teachers assistants because they influence the kids education. They deserve comfort and security just like doctors.

5. I don't support cuts to pensions

Right to strike. I think teachers should have the right to strike.

Covid response:

If covid protocols are put in place at schools because they are a super spreader and causing deaths in those areas, then stricter measures should be taken.

The fact that kids up to age 18 have never been exposed to greater risk of sickness and death during COVID-19 than before helps me understand that when someone makes policy and uses "for the safety of our kids " I know they don't I know what they are talking about and are trying to manipulate.

I completely think measures are purely political and have no scientific merit in schools. I think vaccines are effective and should be encouraged.

To suggest that waves of covid are completely preventable is also ridiculous. What country similar to ours or, or state, or province, has not dealt with many waves of covid? Regardless of political leaning.

Making this political is irresponsible of your organization.