Myra D'Souza responses

Candidate for Calgary Catholic School District Wards 1, 2 & Cochrane

Curriculum.

I do not support the government's K-6 draft curriculum.

As a 7-year director on the Calgary Urban Aboriginal Initiative I see that this new draft K-6 curriculum does not support an indigenous perspective and cultural diversity which I believe are essential.

This new curriculum puts our teachers and staff at a very vulnerable position as they have not been adequately trained with the professional training. It sets our teachers up for failure and in turn sets our students for failure. There was insufficient consultation with school boards who have experts in curriculum. The content of the curriculum is inappropriate for grade level.

The curriculum needs to be redrafted to reflect Alberta's colonial history, diverse present and modernized to reflect the current world.

Funding:

No I do not believe the education funding formula is sufficient. I would continue to meet with my MLAs and leverage my experience and knowledge as a Trustee and Chair of Audit Committee to advocate for predictable, sustainable, and adequate funding for our students. Funding for student transportation and special programing is inadequate.

I will continue to meet with our parent community, school councils and stakeholders to lobby their MLAs and inform them about the challenges and difficulties they and their children experience resulting from inadequate funding.

I would, along with our board continue to meet with and work closely with the Education Minister and Alberta Treasury to keep them informed of how the funding formula and cuts have had huge detrimental effects on the district our students and staff.

Privatization including P3s:

No I do not support bringing privatized services and infrastructure including Pss in house, they are inefficient and do not save costs and take advantage of our lower paid workers.

Schools as Employers:

Yes I support the fair and proper treatment and living wages of our hardworking employees and bargaining rights.

Yes I oppose the govt's cuts and restrictions

COVID Safety:

Yes I support the measures of mask mandates, vaccine mandates for staff to limit and reduce the spread of Covid 19 in our schools.