



★ W Y O M I N G **FAMILY ALLIANCE ACTION** ★

2026 SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE SURVEY

Paul Bankes

Laramie County School District #1

School Board Trustee | Area 3 | 4 years | Nonpartisan

CAMPAIGN EMAIL

bankesforschoolboard@gmail.com

CAMPAIGN WEBSITE

<https://bankesforschoolboard.com>

Candidate-submitted response. The answers below were received through the 2026 school board candidate survey form and are reproduced as submitted, with only formatting changes. Publicly researched positions were not used. Publication does not constitute an endorsement by Wyoming Family Alliance Action.

1

1. Student achievement in core academics, especially reading and math, should be the board's first priority when setting district goals and budgets.

RESPONSE Strongly Agree

This is the main purpose of education and given limited resources, we must focus on this first and build out as we can.

2

2. Districts should use reading curricula built on systematic evidence based literacy instruction and not on three-cueing systems. (SF 59-2026)

RESPONSE Strongly Agree

The three cuiong system grew out of some older, prior research but has not held up as an effective approach by itself and we must rely on current, proven, researched practices.

3

3. Parents, not the school, are the primary decision makers in their children's education, health, and upbringing. (SF 9-2024)

RESPONSE Agree

This is absolutely the case, but there must also be an acknowledgment of educational professionalism and work towards a partnership.

- 4** *4. District staff should promptly inform parents of any significant change in their child's well-being at school, including a request to be treated as the opposite sex. (SF 9-2024)*

RESPONSE Strongly Agree

Parents can not effectively and responsibly raise their children if information is withheld from them. The only exception would be if there is a clearly established set of circumstances that would put the student's well-being at risk.

- 5** *5. Parents and community members should be able to easily review all curriculum, instructional materials, and supplemental materials used in district classrooms. (SF 62-2022)*

RESPONSE Strongly Agree

School should have nothing to hide and a partnership with parents requires this level of easy access.

- 6** *6. Students should receive sex education only with a parent's written permission in advance. (SF 9-2024)*

RESPONSE Strongly Agree

Again, I think this decision should rest with the parent in collaboration with their student.

- 7** *7. School libraries and classrooms should not offer sexually explicit material, while keeping age-appropriate, factual materials on human biology and health. (HB 10 Engrossed-2026)*

Required: Please explain where you would draw that line and what review process you would support for parents who raise concerns.

RESPONSE Agree

The definition of sexually explicit material should not be so stringent that it denies our students the opportunity to read books they would like to. I would expect very few books to not be allowed.

- 8** *8. The district should fully uphold Wyoming law that keeps girls' sports, restrooms, locker rooms, and overnight accommodations separated by biological sex. (SF 62-2025; SF 133-2023; HB 32-2025)*

RESPONSE Strongly Agree

Yes, the district should uphold Wyoming law, and the district must fully comply with it. Our policies should protect the privacy, safety, and dignity of every student and keep parents informed.

- 9** *9. District curriculum, programs, and staff training should not divide people into classes of "oppressed" and "oppressor" based on race, sex, or other group identity. (HB 147-2025)*

RESPONSE Agree

Students should never be labeled as oppressors or victims because of their race, sex, or any other group identity. But students should learn our full history, including real injustices like slavery, segregation, and the long fight for women's and civil rights, and how Americans worked to overcome them. Teaching what happened accurately, without assigning guilt to anyone for who they are, is how we prepare students to think for themselves.

10

10. Students should be free to express their sincerely held religious beliefs at school without fear of penalty or retaliation.

RESPONSE Agree

Religious expression is a right that should be protected and only interfered with if the student is infringing on the rights or others.

11

11. The board should respect parents' freedom to choose public, charter, private, or home education, and should welcome homeschool and private school students in district activities as state law now requires. (HB 199-2025; HB 46-2025; HB 23-2026)

RESPONSE Agree

These activities are beneficial to all students and regardless of the school of attendance we should try to provide them these opportunities, however, the appropriate funding must be in place to make this happen. No funding would require us to rethink this.

Candidate responses are shown verbatim except for typographic normalization needed for document rendering.