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Fields marked with a * are required.

First Name * Richard

Last Name *Grayson

What office and district are you running for? *US House, At-Large

City *Brooklyn, NY

Email *richard.grayson@yahoo.com

1. Are you familiar with the Common Core State Standards and how it is affecting education in our state?

- It's new to me, but I will learn more.
- A working knowledge and NOT in favor of it.
- A working knowledge and in favor of it.
- Other

Comments

But it's the business of the people of Wyoming and its state government, not of Congress, so my personal opinion is irrelevant here.

2. Would you consider sponsoring legislative remedies in the upcoming legislative session that would include a total removal of Common Core in Wyoming and mandating state-created standards of higher quality?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Comments

I'm not running for the legislature. I think Wyoming can do what it wants, although as someone who's been a teacher and administrator at undergraduate colleges and law schools since 1975, I favor Common Core.

3. Do you believe the budget footnote defunding the NGSS was the correct decision for the state of Wyoming?

- I agree that this is the direction that the majority of educators and parents feel we should go.
- I disagree and feel that the NGSS should have a place in Wyoming
- Other

Comments

But I don't live in the state and I'm not running for state office, so my own opinion is irrelevant. If people in Wyoming want to keep raising ignorant kids, that's a state issue and not my business as a congressional candidate. We've got plenty of smart kids on the coasts, and we need young people to janitors and other professions where science knowledge isn't important. Wyoming kids can still serve our country's economy, too.

4. Do you feel it is important the Wyoming Department of Education improve communication with parents/public to allow for meaningful input into the education of their children and support legislation strengthening current communication practices?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Comments

Do whatever you people want.

The Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) is a citizen tracking program, and a grant program, that rewards states financially for participating. It's also called P-20, which stands for preschool through age 20 (workforce) tracking. It will hold data and share it statewide and with third parties. This data includes an unique identifier for every student that does not permit a student to be individually identified (except as permitted by federal and state law) and also includes the following; school enrollment history, demographic characteristics, and program participation record of every student; information on when a student enrolls, transfers, drops out, or graduates from a school; students scores on tests required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act; information on students who are not tested, by grade and subject; students scores on tests measuring whether they're ready for college; a way to identify teachers and to match teachers to their students; information from students' transcripts, specifically courses taken and grades earned; data on students' success in college, including whether they enrolled in remedial courses; data on whether K-12 students are prepared to succeed in college; a system of auditing data for quality, validity, and reliability; and the ability to share data from preschool through post secondary education data systems.

5. Would you support legislation insuring that parents are informed about the data being collected on their children in public school, which also includes information on how that data is being used and mandates safeguards for protecting that data? (The following language would also be included in the legislation: not allowing data to be shared between state agencies, not collecting data without written parental consent (opting-In), not sharing the child's name or any identifying information outside the local district, etc.)

- Yes
- No

- Conditionally

Comments

But again, I'm running for Congress, not the freaking state legislature. Do whatever the heck you want. I don't live in Wyoming.

6. Do you support legal recourse to the entity who is gathering data on Wyoming citizens, should the data be misused or stolen by a third party due to insufficient safeguards protecting the data held by the State Longitudinal Database (SLDS)?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Comments

I don't care what you do.

7. Should the state level standardized test (PAWS) be changed to a national test such as Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) or Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), who are both partnered with the American Institute for Research (AIR - a behavioral and social science research and evaluation organization)?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Comments

Do what you want. It would be presumptuous for me as a nonresident to offer my opinion.

8. Do you believe that tying a teacher's evaluation to her/his students' test scores is detrimental to good teaching practice and encourages teaching to the test?

- Yes and I will support legislation preventing it.
- No
- Other

Comments

This is the one place where I probably agree with Common Core critics; teachers' unions in New York and other states are opposing the implementation of Common Core as currently structured for that reason. I agree teaching to the test is a bad thing for everyone.

9. Do you believe that parents have the Constitutional right that allows for their input and grants them as the final decision maker in the education of their child, when it comes to the standards, curriculum, absenteeism, homeschooling, etc?

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Other

Comments

As the "final decision maker," no -- because obviously you're going to have parents with many different opinions, and having every parent as the final decision maker would lead to chaos as teachers would have to have as many bosses and directions as there are parents on the panel. Even two parents for one child could disagree. This is a moronic question, but then you people probably went to school in Wyoming, right?

10. Additional comments about Education

Hey, we need stupid people, too. If Wyoming wants to have stupid kids, I don't really care. We have plenty of smart kids in other states.