

Fields marked with a * are required.

First Name *Troy

Last Name *Mader

What office and district are you running for? *House District 52

City *Gillette

Email *Troy.Mader@wyoleg.gov

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

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

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 some school districts are ignoring this rule and implementing it anyway

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

We must get rid of the mentality that the "experts" know best. More often parents know best and we'd be wise to listen to them.

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

Unless I'm convinced there's a reasonable need for such data collection, I'm opposed to it being collected in the first place.

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

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

Since I'm new to the legislature (appointed in February this year), and was placed on Revenue and Corporations Committees, I focused more on my committee work than education. Therefore I'm not up to speed on all these acromyns thrown around in education circles and thus won't comment on them until better informed. What I do support is a standard testing, like the Iowa Skills test, for all students which had the requirement of passing at a certain level of competency before advancing to the next grade.

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

Don't know - Teacher definitely need evaluated, but I'm not sure the best method. On the other hand, if the students aren't learning, that's probably a good sign the teacher isn't doing a very good job.

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

I would like to see the word "involved" put in front of "parents" in this question. What we don't want to support is the parent who could care less if their child is educated or not. Ignorance is NOT bliss.

10. Additional comments about Education.

Here's my position on Education: I support high wuality and accountable education. I believe this involves real parental involvement with their child's education. I believe in school choice because competition is a good thing. I support tying funding to accountability and performance in order to get the most bang for the buck.