



Courtney Potter

Board of Education Candidate Director District 3

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Notice of Intent to be a Candidate Secretary of State Registration

1. Tell us about yourself and your connection to the Adams 12 Five Star School District.

I am a dedicated mother of three children. My two school aged kids have attended a charter school within Adams 12 for most of their education. I have had the pleasure of spending time as a volunteer in the classroom, attending School Board meetings, and connecting with parents across the district through community sports, events, and activities. My education in finance and management, combined with my experience as a coach and parent, have prepared me to effectively advocate for parents, students and staff.

2. What are your goals as a member of the Board of Education?

My primary goal as a member of the Board of Education is to mend the bridge between the school board and parents/caregivers. We have more parents involved and paying attention than ever before, and we need to nurture that relationship in order to collectively create and execute agendas that best fit our school district. By working together we can create a sense of trust, comfort, and involvement that will only make the district stronger.

When it comes to change within our schools, I have three key areas I'd like to focus on; safety, transparency, and fiscal responsibility. Safety includes continued efforts to provide physical safety from outside threats, increased resources to support mental health, alternative solutions to create healthy environments from a medical perspective, and additional education and monitoring for cyber safety. Transparency entails more communication with parents, being receptive of parents/caregivers, staff, and community members' feelings and ideas, and additional opportunities for parents and the School Board to work together in hopes of building a community for our children to thrive. Finally, fiscal responsibility. With changes in the budget due to Covid-19, we need to re-evaluate our spending. What programs were temporary, but now permanent? How can we show appreciation to the dedicated staff within the district? With decreased enrollment, how can we prevent the students from feeling the impact of less funding? These are all critical questions that need attention and need creative solutions. I am prepared to talk with local legislators and community program leaders to determine what additional resources are available to optimize our success as a district.

3. What do you think will be the top issue facing Adams 12 Five Star Schools in five years? How would you propose to address it?

I believe one of our biggest issues in the next four years is post-Covid/quarantine recovery. This means, reestablishing expectations for our students and staff academically, socially, and mentally. Many students suffered when forced to learn remotely and many are still feeling the struggle today. We cannot change the state standards but we may have to adjust the expectations placed on our staff and students in regards to pace of learning, length of review and test scores. We need to understand they may need extra help on topics learned during remote periods or that extra time will need to be spent before/after school to better grasp the concepts. In addition, it is important to be aware of the emotional challenges that come with students feeling behind, having lack of socialization, the effects of the lasting health concerns/mandates and the divisive nature of current social movements. Our students and staff are feeling burdened and we need to remove those burdens as much as possible in order to find a way to return to a new, healthier, normal.

4. What is your vision for Adams 12 Five Star Schools and how would you support this as a member of the Board?

My vision for the Adams 12 Five Star School District is to have equal opportunities available to all students, in all schools. I would love for there to be space in much needed programs for the kids that need them, without having to transfer schools, be waitlisted, or turn to outside private programs. I would like to accomplish this by continuing to work with community leaders, increase parent involvement in the schools, and meet with staff to find out how they would like to be supported, in a way that promotes growth within their program. No student should have to struggle at school due to lack of space. No parents should have to choose between speech therapy or paying basic bills. I would like to work passionately with the other members of the School Board to continue making improvements to our already impressive list of resources.