



NEW MEXICO BUSINESS COALITION

2021 Albuquerque Public Schools Board Candidates Survey

Q1

Contact Information

Name: ARTHUR CARRASCO

Q2

Please list your campaign website or other online sources where voters can learn more about you and your positions.

www.CarrascoCares.com

Q3

What APS district are you running for?

District 6

Q4

As a school board member, what will be your top priority?

Currently, APS is at a \$45million deficit. They have over 750 job openings. They have received \$360 million from Federal Grant money with no plan to spend it. They have paid out \$25 million-plus for services not received. They have paid out \$120K in IRS penalties for not filing reports on time. It is clear to me that we need a board that understands finances.

Q5

When voting on an APS policy, what do you think is the most important thing to consider?

The only thing all board members should consider is if the policy is in the best educational interest of the student.

Q6

What experience do you have in creating budgets and what will you prioritize in the APS budget?

I have 20 plus years of reviewing financials and budgets. I have owned several companies and served on International and National boards with larger budgets. I know how to ask the hard questions and I will get the answers. I know how to review and analyze real estate, contracts, and leases. I have done it for over 20 years as a Licensed qualifying broker.

Q7

Please provide your position on the APS Superintendent's contract being tied to student outcomes and explain why you feel that way.

The superintendent needs to be held accountable for the performance of the District; however, the goals and objectives given must be clear, measurable, and short and long term. The superintendent is the only employee the board has and therefore should be clear on how he will be graded.

Q8

What factors should play into a decision on closing a school?

Financial, staffing, safety, and student transportation.

Q9

Do you support or oppose mandating that children are taught Critical Race Theory (CRT)?

Oppose

Q10

What do you think is the most important skill(s) a child should learn in school?

Social skills;
Communication skills; or
Basic skills of reading, writing and math.
Other (please specify):

All the above.

Q11

Should teachers be held accountable for students' academic achievement or lack thereof?
Why or why not?

Teachers should be held accountable for student's failures. Teachers must find out what motivates each student in their class and then use that to help them achieve. They must also identify students that need additional help and make sure they get it.

Q12

How should the Capital Master Plan reflect the continuing decline of APS enrollment?

The decline in APS is unacceptable. This year APS lost 5192 students and Charter schools gained 200. APS only has one function and that is to provide the best possible education for all students. Not every student will or can go to college, and this is not a problem. APS needs to motivate all our students to find a path that leads them into a successful future. We need provide programs and classes to support those students that will not go to college. APS needs a trades program for those students. We need to find out what motivates students and use that to make sure they graduate and have skills that will help them be successful outside the classroom. This needs to be done at the classroom level and not at the headquarter level. We need to hold the Board and superintendent responsible for the success or failure.

Q13

As an APS Board member, please explain your position in regards to involving business community members in advising how best to prepare students for future careers.

As a board member of any organization, you must listen and learn from your membership or community. The success or failure of a school system will affect the entire community. Currently, Albuquerque gets pasted up by businesses because we don't have an educated workforce.

Q14

Please provide details of any arrest record you may have.

none

Q15

Please describe to voters why you are best candidate to fill a position on the Board of Education.

I am not a politician. I am a proud parent and a businessman. We need teachers and educators in the classroom and not on the board. We need board members who understand finances, budgets, asset management, hiring/firing, contracts, accountability, and transparency. I am the person for that job