

Johnson County Public Policy Council
2016 State Senator/State Representative Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Kim Palcic District: H-15 Political Affiliation: R

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Campaign Website: palcicforkansas.com

Campaign Video Link:

Occupation/Work History (last five years - 25 words or fewer):

The last five years have been with the Olathe School District - 3rd grade teacher at Madison Place Elementary.

Other recent political/community experience (25 words or fewer):

Madison Place - Building Leadership Team; Site Council. Olathe District Wide Committes - Appraisal Study Team; Time Workload; Calendar. Legislative Assistant to Sen. Pres. Bud Burke. Norhtwest Arctic Borough

If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list which organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held:

Kotzebue, Alaska Chamber of Commerce (1995-1997) - Assist in reestablishing the chamber and rewriting the by-laws.

As a candidate, what are your top three policy issues? (10 words or fewer per issue):

1. Tax policy - fair to all Kansans
2. Fiscally responsible budget
3. Education - funding formula

What are your views on state tax policy? (100 words or fewer):

The "experiment" has not been positive for Kansas. I use the example of the three-legged stool when visiting door to door. It's a great visual! We have cut off one leg of the stool. Thus, we do not have a balanced tax policy. I have talked to several small business owners. The majority of business owners shared that they have not seen a large windfall from the tax cuts. They have said that they would rather the state use it for balancing the budget. In short, our new and improved tax policy is a disaster for Kansans and economic development.

If Kansas faces a significant revenue shortfall in meeting its budget, how would you proposed to balance the budget? Please be specific. (100 words or fewer):

To balance the budget will not be delightful for anyone. I would say that cutting state budgets would be a beginning, but we have cut many state agencies so much that vital services would be interrputed. The real problem is that we do not have a tax policy that works and we need to receive reliable revenue estimates. Our current elected officials have been living in manner that iwould certainly be unacceptable for a typical family budget. Sadly, it will take years for Kansas to recover financially.

What are your views on K-12 school funding? In anticipation of a new funding formula/process, what are your priorities?(75 words or fewer):

Every Kansas student deserves the best possible education! In the past, legislators have been very territorial. However, as an elected body, it will be important to look at students as if they belong to all of us - not just belonging to a district. I would like to see districts being able to fund early childhood programs and all day Kindergarten programs. Students need to be prepared for their life goals. We need to ensure that students desiring a college degree are academically prepared. If their goals do not require college, we must have vocational and technical training opportunities so that they may successfully enter the workforce.

What are your views on the state's role with respect to access and affordability of public higher education? (50 words or fewer):

Obtaining a college degree has been shown that one's earning power increases. It is necessary that tuition is affordable to not just the wealthy. This means that the state needs to play an active role in keeping higher education affordable. It may be that students need to be encouraged to attend community colleges where the tuition is considerably less.

What is your position on individual tax credits and other voucher-like programs for private school tuition? (50 words or fewer):

I do not support any type of voucher-like programs or individual tax credits for private school tuition. The Kansas constitution states that public monies for education must go to public schools.

What type of economic development policies will you support to encourage job growth and business expansion in Kansas? (50 words or fewer):

I believe that it is important for cities/counties be able to decide what economic development policies work best for them. What works in Johnson county may not be ideal for Western Kansas. While living in the Northwest Arctic borough, we had programs that were very different from the Fairbanks Northstar borough due to population, industry, and etc.

Do you support or oppose maintaining the current dedicated sales tax transfer to the state highway fund for the purpose of funding transportation projects, or should transportation be subject to the appropriations process where legislators determine funding levels entirely? Explain. (75 words or fewer):

I support the current dedicated sales tax transfer. If we did not use the highway fund as a state bank, we would still be funding projects. I fear that if we let legislators determine funding and projects, we could easily end up with a system of pork barrel projects - especially at election time.

What is your policy position on the state's role regarding immigration and do you support employment-based immigration reforms to assist with workforce shortages in specified industries such as engineering? (50 words or fewer):

I believe that it is important that businesses do not take advantage of undocumented immigrants, such as no workers compensation, health benefits, and appropriate pay. If there is a documented workforce shortage, then elected officials need to hear their input. If this means that immigration reforms are needed, then the state and industry must work together so that needs are met without negative impact to Kansas citizens.

What role should state governments have in determining workplace employment practices and benefits offered to employees?(50 words or fewer):

When it comes to safety, I think that we should have best practices to ensure the safety of employees. As far as benefits offered, I believe that the state should not be determining this area. It would be ideal if employers would be ethical in the benefits that they offered.

What do you believe is the most pressing issue or challenge facing Kansas today and how would you address it? (75 words or fewer):

Right now, the biggest challenge is our tax policy and how it affects our budget. Our elected officials must re-evaluate the current state tax policy. This will require leaving political ideologies out of the debate and reflect on reliable information in forming a tax policy in which all Kansans pay for a high quality of living.

What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race? (75 words or fewer):

I'm a teacher! Teachers are some of the best problem solvers. They are also great collaborators (team work!). As a teacher, I know that my goals for a student are not the only goals that need to be met. I must work with my team to establish a roadmap that will help the student be successful. Basically, I understand that in order to achieve the optimum success, I will not always "get my way" and that compromise is the key. I know the importance of creating long range plans yet being flexible to see that changes may need to be made in the plan.