



For Your County

**2024 Election
Candidate Questionnaire**

-Burke County-

For additional details regarding C.P.R. Inc., visit our website at www.cprforyourcounty.org. The content in this document is provided for informational purposes and has been directly sourced from the candidates. We have made diligent efforts to present the information as accurately as possible.



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Introduction

Christian Perspective Representatives Inc. is a cooperative group of volunteers from churches who stand in unison for Biblical values and Constitutional rights, support and affirm human dignity, and value all people.

C.P.R., Inc. began in 2021 as a nonpartisan group to circumvent the loss of freedoms of our children, parents, and employees in public schools and institutions throughout our state and nation. Since we believe there is a potential for topics such as sexuality, gender identify, and extreme theories to be taught to our children in harmful and potentially damaging ways, we want to be part of the solution.

C.P.R, Inc. operates strictly on a volunteer basis. No one involved with C.P.R. receives any type of compensation.

C.P.R. does not endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party. This questionnaire is being distributed electronically through our website, mainstream and social media, supporting churches, and other means. We have produced a questionnaire for: (1) McDowell County Board of Education and (2) McDowell County Board of Commissioners.

The purpose of our questionnaire is to inform and educate voters of each candidate's position on a variety of general topics that are relevant to C.P.R.'s mission. As a faith-based organization, the questionnaire was designed to be distributed through Churches where the topics of the questions are of the utmost interest to a Christian voter.

Questionnaire Information

The responses gathered from the questionnaire were provided directly by the candidates themselves. C.P.R. utilized a multiple-choice format for the questions, offering candidates the option to expand on their responses within a 950-character limit. Upholding the questionnaire's integrity, candidate answers are presented verbatim, without any modifications for grammar or spelling. Each candidate was contacted in an attempt to encourage their participation using the contact information obtained from the North Carolina State Board of Elections website.

If a candidate did not submit a response, the publication will indicate "Did Not Respond." In cases where a candidate replied via email, telephone, etc., but opted not to participate, the publication will note "Refused to Respond." The party affiliation of each candidate is listed beside their name: (D) for Democrat, (L) for Libertarian, (R) for Republican, (U) for Unaffiliated.

Board of Education Questionnaire

- 1) Have you ever been convicted of a felony or been penalized in either civil or criminal court for sexual misconduct? Yes, No, Refuse to Answer. If yes, please explain.
- 2) Do you agree that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every single stage until natural death? Yes, No, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 3) Before students are taught courses such as Comprehensive Sex Ed (CSE), do you agree that parents must opt-in with written parental permission? Yes, No, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 4) Who has the ultimate responsibility for the education of children in public schools? School Boards, Teachers, Parents, State Government, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 5) I support Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) statements, policies, slogans, and/or training for students, teachers, and/or school staff. Agree, Disagree, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 6) I do not believe school choice will improve educational opportunities for children in poor performing school districts? Agree, Disagree, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 7) I believe a detailed dress code policy should be firmly enforced by the administration, with support from the superintendent at all schools. Agree, Disagree, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 8) Materials/books that are sexually explicit should be accessible to students in classrooms and/or libraries. Agree, Disagree, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 9) I support policies and implementation of the Parents Bill of Rights (SB49). Agree, Disagree, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 10) As a representative, would you support Critical Race Theory type curriculum being used in the public schools? Support, Do not Support, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.

Board of Commissioners Questionnaire

- 1) Have you ever been convicted of a felony or been penalized in either civil or criminal court for sexual misconduct? Yes, No, Refuse to Answer. If yes, please explain.
- 2) Do you agree that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every single stage until natural death? Agree, Disagree, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 3) I support counties having a Pro Life Resolution. Agree, Disagree, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 4) Who has the ultimate responsibility for the education of children in public schools? School Boards, Teachers, Parents, State Government, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 5) I support county tax dollars and/or grants to pay for Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) training for students and teachers/school staff. Agree, Disagree, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 6) I support implementing Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) statements, policies, or slogans, for any local public entity. Agree, Disagree, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 7) As a representative, how would you handle local law enforcement funding? Increase Funding, Decrease Funding, Keep the Same, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 8) Materials/books that are sexually explicit should be accessible to students in classrooms and/or libraries. Agree, Disagree, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 9) I support allowing public school students to participate in athletic competition based on the gender with which they identify instead of biological sex. Agree, Disagree, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.
- 10) Would you support local ordinances that would place restrictions on the 2nd Amendment rights as they are now applied in the county? Yes, No, Refuse to Answer. Optional elaboration.

Burke County Board of Education

At-Large

Sharon Ivestor Everhart (D)
Did Not Respond

Seth Hunt (R)

- 1) **Have you ever been convicted of a felony or been penalized in either civil or criminal court for sexual misconduct?**

Response: No.

- 2) **Do you agree that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every single stage until natural death?**

Response: Yes.

- 3) **Before students are taught courses such as Comprehensive Sex Ed (CSE), do you agree that parents must opt-in with written parental permission?**

Response: Yes.

- 4) **Who has the ultimate responsibility for the education of children in public schools?**

Response: Teachers. The education of our children must be a healthy, respectful, and participatory collaboration between the parents and teachers

- 5) **I support Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) statements, policies, slogans, and/or training for students, teachers, and/or school staff.**

Response: Disagree.

- 6) **I do not believe school choice will improve educational opportunities for children in poor performing school districts?**

Response: Disagree.

- 7) **I believe a detailed dress code policy should be firmly enforced by the administration, with support from the superintendent at all schools.**

Response: Agree. Unfortunately if there was appropriately parental involvement there would be no need for a dress code policy. We expect parents to be in control so we should communicate our expectations to parents and when disruptions occur due to inappropriate dress parents should report to school to address the issue.

- 8) **Materials/books that are sexually explicit should be accessible to students in classrooms and/or libraries.**

Response: Disagree. There are levels of sexual explicit materials. Schools should petition parents to inform them of non curriculum reading materials and ascertain their level of permission.

- 9) **I support policies and implementation of the Parents Bill of Rights (SB49).**

Response: Agree.

- 10) **As a representative, would you support Critical Race Theory type curriculum being used in the public schools?**

Response: Do not support. This curriculum is appropriate at the post secondary school level (college or community college) where students have the option to decide if they wish to participate learning more about CRT

Jamey Wycoff (R)

- 1) **Have you ever been convicted of a felony or been penalized in either civil or criminal court for sexual misconduct?**

Response: No.

- 2) **Do you agree that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every single stage until natural death?**

Response: Yes. As a Christian, I believe that life is a precious gift from God that begins at conception and should be protected at all stages.

- 3) **Before students are taught courses such as Comprehensive Sex Ed (CSE), do you agree that parents must opt-in with written parental permission?**

Response: Yes. Parents should be notified that they can opt their child in or out of the CSE curriculum. Schools also should provide to the parents specific information being taught including examples. The curriculum must be in compliance with North Carolina General Statute § 115C-81.30

- 4) **Who has the ultimate responsibility for the education of children in public schools?**

Response: Parents. Parents should indeed have the ultimate authority over their children and their education. I have been instrumental in removing a portion of our media policy that said professional educators were in the best position to determine what is age appropriate for children.

- 5) **I support Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) statements, policies, slogans, and/or training for students, teachers, and/or school staff.**

Response: Disagree. Neither students or staff should be involved in any DEI training or teaching.

- 6) **I do not believe school choice will improve educational opportunities for children in poor performing school districts?**

Response: Disagree. School choice forces schools to compete with other schools and districts to keep their students and funding. School choice also provides opportunities for students with special needs who may not have the services that they require at their school district.

- 7) **I believe a detailed dress code policy should be firmly enforced by the administration, with support from the superintendent at all schools.**

Response: Agree. I believe that students and staff should dress appropriately and modestly at all times. Dress code for faculty and staff should also not reflect their personal views regarding sexual preferences and political issues.

- 8) **Materials/books that are sexually explicit should be accessible to students in classrooms and/or libraries.**

Response: Disagree. I am a parent who has successfully fought against the pornography in our school libraries. Purchasing library materials from bulk book companies that offer pornography to minors should cease. Any material purchased to be curated into the schools' media centers should be vetted by the media coordinators and parent representatives who follow guidelines in policy. This policy should restrict pornographic content entirely.

- 9) **I support policies and implementation of the Parents Bill of Rights (SB49).**

Response: Agree. I have spoken publicly several times at our school board meetings in favor of SB49. I also advocated for policy revisions that supported the Parents Bill of Rights.

10) As a representative, would you support Critical Race Theory type curriculum being used in the public schools?

Response: Do not support. Critical Race Theory (CRT) teaches that there are two classes: the oppressed and the oppressor. These ideas are the same of Karl Marx/Marxism and extremely dangerous to our children and society. CRT negatively stereotypes all law enforcement officers as racist. I have found CRT material in our schools and successfully advocated for its removal.

Central District

Sonya Rockett (R) **Did Not Respond**

Eastern District

Jeffrey Reid Beck (R)

- 1) **Have you ever been convicted of a felony or been penalized in either civil or criminal court for sexual misconduct?**
Response: No.
- 2) **Do you agree that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every single stage until natural death?**
Response: Yes. Jeremiah 1:5
- 3) **Before students are taught courses such as Comprehensive Sex Ed (CSE), do you agree that parents must opt-in with written parental permission?**
Response: Yes.
- 4) **Who has the ultimate responsibility for the education of children in public schools?**
Response: Parents. Parents have the final authority over their children
- 5) **I support Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) statements, policies, slogans, and/or training for students, teachers, and/or school staff.**
Response: Disagree.
- 6) **I do not believe school choice will improve educational opportunities for children in poor performing school districts?**
Response: Disagree. School choice will create healthy competition and force schools to step up to the plate
- 7) **I believe a detailed dress code policy should be firmly enforced by the administration, with support from the superintendent at all schools.**
Response: Agree.
- 8) **Materials/books that are sexually explicit should be accessible to students in classrooms and/or libraries.**
Response: Disagree. Sexually explicit books have no place whatsoever in our educational systems in North Carolina
- 9) **I support policies and implementation of the Parents Bill of Rights (SB49).**
Response: Agree.
- 10) **As a representative, would you support Critical Race Theory type curriculum being used in the public schools?**
Response: Do not support.

Wendi Craven (R) Did Not Respond

Eastern District

Brad Camp (R)

- 1) **Have you ever been convicted of a felony or been penalized in either civil or criminal court for sexual misconduct?**

Response: No.

- 2) **Do you agree that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every single stage until natural death?**

Response: Yes.

- 3) **Before students are taught courses such as Comprehensive Sex Ed (CSE), do you agree that parents must opt-in with written parental permission?**

Response: Yes. Sex Ed should not be taught before high school. In high school, sex education, as part of a health curriculum, needs to be very clear about the mental, emotional, and health dangers of unmarried sexual behavior, and abstinence should still be taught as the best solution to unwanted pregnancies.

- 4) **Who has the ultimate responsibility for the education of children in public schools?**

Response: Teachers. Day in and day out in the classroom, a student's education is dependent on his/her teacher. However, this is clearly a collaboration. Teachers need to be guided by good school board policy. Parents need to be aware of what each child's teacher is teaching and provide input as needed, and need to support their student's learning through active interest in what their child is learning, and in homework help. Teacher need parents to communicate with them about their children's needs and struggles, so that teachers can best connect with and influence their students. The best quality education includes parents volunteering in the classroom, lunchroom, hallways, before and after school. It includes parents emphasizing hard work and the value of learning and preparing for their children's futures, including their future careers.

- 5) **I support Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) statements, policies, slogans, and/or training for students, teachers, and/or school staff.**

Response: Disagree. DEI is a sweet sounding title for radical liberal policies designed to diminish the American nuclear family and take responsibility and influence away from parents to the state. It pushes radical sexual agendas and promotes mutilation of minors as a strategy for dealing with their emotional confusion.

- 6) **I do not believe school choice will improve educational opportunities for children in poor performing school districts?**

Response: Disagree. I do believe that there is hope that school choice will provide some better choices for students who's school is just not meeting their needs. But the issue is not simple. Some of the complications are that many of the "best" choices in schools are already full, and that school changes sometimes negatively affect students' friends and

social system. There is also the problem of transportation to a far away school, which could be a recurring problem for the student and the parents. So the issue is not simple. One other answer as well as providing other school choices is to make serious changes in staff and resources to turn around an underperforming school.

7) I believe a detailed dress code policy should be firmly enforced by the administration, with support from the superintendent at all schools.

Response: Agree. I do believe that dress code policies should be reasonable, and consistently enforced. Enforcement needs to use wise means of dealing with violations without demeaning the students, yet enforcement that will end the problem. Enforce with firmness, yet understanding and respect.

8) Materials/books that are sexually explicit should be accessible to students in classrooms and/or libraries.

Response: Disagree. Students in public schools are minors. They are children, and need our protection against exposure to excessive profanity, obscenity, and pornography, just as their parents would do at home. Schools are the extension of the parent, and parents expect them to use wise guidance in what they expose their children to, and what their children learn. Students can learn about difficult social, life issues without being exposed to explicit sexual descriptions. There is no artistic or moral value in it, and pornography should never be allowed in any school materials.

9) I support policies and implementation of the Parents Bill of Rights (SB49).

Response: Agree. I think the Parents Bill of Rights is a great document guaranteeing parents rights and control of their own children regarding their children's education. I believe it stops just short of one thing. It guarantees parents the right to examine their children's textbooks, but it does not state the same right for parents to examine and dispute the books in their children's school libraries. Pornography has recently been found in school libraries, and parents need the guarantee of the right to examine library books and dispute inappropriate books that they find. A simple statement in the Parents Bill of Rights to that effect would solve that problem. We need to remove books from all our school libraries that contain pornography, profuse profanity and obscenity. When school districts house pornographic books, it sends a message that they accept those books as appropriate for the children, and in fact recommend those books for children to read. Parents need the right to stop this and protect their children.

10) As a representative, would you support Critical Race Theory type curriculum being used in the public schools?

Response: Do not support. CRT is not a theory, it is a philosophy, It is an evil, divisive philosophy dressed up as an enlightened view of history. Its basis is that Caucasian societies are inherently evil & oppressive, and all other societies are the oppressed. As it relates to American history & current social structures, it suggests that all whites are oppressive and should be ashamed, and all blacks should be enraged because they are & always have been the oppressed.

Critical Race philosophy ignores basic human history, including the historical truths that all races, cultures, and peoples have at one time or another been enslaved by other cultures. It ignores current social realities in America, such as the reality that in America, people of all races and cultures enjoy a standard of living that is better than any other time and country in human history. As Martin Luther King said, we need to get past judging people by their skin color, and judge people by the content of their character.

Critical Race philosophy does not allow for that. It does not bring people together in understanding and compassion; it divides people by their skin color.

Susan C. Jones (R)
Did Not Respond

Burke County Board of Commissioners

Brian Barrier (R)

- 1) **Have you ever been convicted of a felony or been penalized in either civil or criminal court for sexual misconduct?**
Response: No.
- 2) **Do you agree that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every single stage until natural death?**
Response: Agree.
- 3) **I support counties having a Pro Life Resolution.**
Response: Agree.
- 4) **Who has the ultimate responsibility for the education of children in public schools?**
Response: Parents.
- 5) **I support county tax dollars and/or grants to pay for Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) training for students and teachers/school staff.**
Response: Disagree.
- 6) **I support implementing Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) statements, policies, or slogans, for any local public entity.**
Response: Disagree.
- 7) **As a representative, how would you handle local law enforcement funding?**
Response: Increase funding. Because Burke County is consistently ranked in the worst 5 counties in the state for opioid overdoses, my initial response is to increase funding. However, if elected as a Commissioner, I will immediately study and understand current funding and use of those funds to make recommendations. I am for very limited government, however, a primary duty of government is to provide peace and security for citizens and law enforcement must have appropriate funding to accomplish their sworn duties.
- 8) **Materials/books that are sexually explicit should be accessible to students in classrooms and/or libraries.**
Response: Disagree.
- 9) **I support allowing public school students to participate in athletic competition based on the gender with which they identify instead of biological sex.**
Response: Disagree.
- 10) **Would you support local ordinances that would place restrictions on the 2nd Amendment rights as they are now applied in the county?**
Response: No.

Jeff Brittain (R)

- 1) **Have you ever been convicted of a felony or been penalized in either civil or criminal court for sexual misconduct?**
Response: No.
- 2) **Do you agree that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every single stage until natural death?**
Response: Agree.
- 3) **I support counties having a Pro Life Resolution.**
Response: Agree.
- 4) **Who has the ultimate responsibility for the education of children in public schools?**
Response: Parents.
- 5) **I support county tax dollars and/or grants to pay for Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) training for students and teachers/school staff.**
Response: Disagree.
- 6) **I support implementing Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) statements, policies, or slogans, for any local public entity.**
Response: Disagree.
- 7) **As a representative, how would you handle local law enforcement funding?**
Response: Increase funding.
- 8) **Materials/books that are sexually explicit should be accessible to students in classrooms and/or libraries.**
Response: Disagree.
- 9) **I support allowing public school students to participate in athletic competition based on the gender with which they identify instead of biological sex.**
Response: Disagree.
- 10) **Would you support local ordinances that would place restrictions on the 2nd Amendment rights as they are now applied in the county?**
Response: No.

Johnnie Carswell (R)

- 1) **Have you ever been convicted of a felony or been penalized in either civil or criminal court for sexual misconduct?**
Response: No.
- 2) **Do you agree that human life begins at conception and deserves legal protection at every single stage until natural death?**
Response: Agree.
- 3) **I support counties having a Pro Life Resolution.**
Response: Agree.
- 4) **Who has the ultimate responsibility for the education of children in public schools?**
Response: Parents.
- 5) **I support county tax dollars and/or grants to pay for Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) training for students and teachers/school staff.**
Response: Disagree.
- 6) **I support implementing Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) statements, policies, or slogans, for any local public entity.**
Response: Disagree.
- 7) **As a representative, how would you handle local law enforcement funding?**
Response: Increase funding.
- 8) **Materials/books that are sexually explicit should be accessible to students in classrooms and/or libraries.**
Response: Disagree.
- 9) **I support allowing public school students to participate in athletic competition based on the gender with which they identify instead of biological sex.**
Response: Disagree.
- 10) **Would you support local ordinances that would place restrictions on the 2nd Amendment rights as they are now applied in the county?**
Response: No.

Wesley E. Hendrix (D)
Did Not Respond

Shawn Freeman (R)
Did Not Respond

Scott Mulwee (R)
Did Not Respond

Mike Stroud (R)
Did Not Respond