



For Your County

**2024 Election
Candidate Questionnaire
-Caldwell 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.



Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Questionnaire Information.....	3
Board of Education Questionnaire.....	4
Board of Commissioners Questionnaire.....	5
Caldwell County Board of Education.....	6
Chris Becker (R).....	6
Ann B. Edwards (R).....	7
Darrell Clayton Pennell (R).....	7
Caldwell County Board of Commissioners.....	7
Jeff Branch (R).....	7
Randy Church(R).....	7
Patrick Starnes (R).....	8

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 identity, 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.

Caldwell County Board of Education

Chris Becker (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. It should be a conversation between the parents and child what CSE is not the schools

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

Response: State government. This answer could be tricky, I think ultimately is the State with that power passed down to the local systems to enact the process of learning and providing the tools to learn

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

Response: Disagree. Where as I do support a form of DEI, I think my form is a little different. Just treat every kid the same, no matter of background, color or anything else. Everyone has the opportunity to be included, but dont force it on anyone.

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

Response: Disagree. Charter schools and such are hurting the public school system and do not have to play by the same guidelines as public schools. Make the playing fields equal and then can see what the results are. I would say a kid would strive a bit more in a charter school for example, smaller classrooms and such, so they should do better in that environment. Charter schools can for example, say no to a kid with behavior problems or other issues, public schools can not, so we will never be comparing apples to apples on what works best.

- 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. Here is my struggle with this - everyone on campus needs to be help accountable and held accountable by all staff, not just the ones that care more that's the struggle, teacher A says nothing, teacher B sends the child to the office its a struggle. Secondly to that, we need to police as parents on what we buy these kids and let them out of the house wearing.

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

Response: Disagree. Easy answer not in school

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

Response: Refuse to answer. The parents that wanna know, already know what's going on ... I support parts of it and other parts, no.

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

Response: Do not support. ABSOLUTELY NOT

Ann B. Edwards (R)

Did Not Respond

Darrell Clayton Pennell (R)

Did Not Respond

Caldwell County Board of Commissioners

Jeff Branch (R)

Did Not Respond

Randy Church (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. I support Pro-Life, however, it is the responsibility of our Great State of North Carolina to limit abortion and those agencies that can perform such acts. The County, having a resolution, has no affect in preventing abortions should the State and or Federal Government allow these acts.

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.

Patrick Starnes (R)

Did Not Respond