

Leavenworth 453 School Board



I am a 4th generation American from a small town called Globe Arizona. I am the son of an electrician and a school nurse. I was inspired to join the Army by the World War II Veteran population from Globe. Both of my grandfathers and numerous great uncles served along with my two uncles and several cousins. I was active in JROTC in high school and received a ROTC scholarship to attend Northern Arizona University. I was commissioned in 1999 and became the first officer in my family. I served 22 years in the Army and retired in Leavenworth.

I believe in:

- **Parents Rights:** Parents' fundamental right to raise their children in alignment with their religious beliefs is essential to cultivating moral virtues within the family, as religion often forms the cornerstone of a family's ethical framework. Public schools must respect these constitutional protections by deferring to parental authority. Parents hold primary responsibility for their children's moral and spiritual development, a boundary that must be vigilantly defended to preserve constitutional freedoms. Parents are more than guardians and we don't co-parent with government.
- **Reading, Writing and Mathematics:** To enhance proficiency in reading, writing, and math in early elementary education, schools must implement evidence-based, structured curricula tailored to developmental stages. Dedicated daily instruction time, supported by trained educators, will prioritize foundational skills to ensure mastery by third grade. Regular assessments and targeted interventions will address individual learning gaps promptly to foster academic success.
- **Boys are Struggling in School:** Boys are falling behind in school, as evidenced by lower high school graduation rates compared to girls, with national data showing boys graduating at a rate of 84% compared to 90% for girls in 2021. Additionally, boys consistently score lower on standardized reading and writing assessments, with NAEP data indicating a 10-point gap in 4th-grade reading scores favoring girls. Board leadership cannot afford to ignore this crisis. Our nation depends on EVERY AMERICAN STUDENT in the education system to keep us competitive globally.

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Paid for by Mesa4education. Vanessa Reid- Treasurer