



NOVEMBER 2024 GENERAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE

KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES WHEN YOU VOTE

Designed for Voters in Anderson, IN
Election Day: Tuesday, November 5, 2024

**Non-partisan Voter Guide developed in
collaboration with:**

communitylensanderson.org

heartofindianaunitedway.org



Heart of Indiana
United Way



2024 GENERAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE

For Voters in Anderson, IN



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this guide](#)**

Note:

- This guide lists all offices and candidates for Anderson, IN voters and much of it covers candidates for Madison County voters.
- CLA alternates which party for candidates is listed first. In 2023 Republicans were listed before Democrats and this year, 2024, Democrats are listed before Republicans.
- Almost all candidate websites will take you to their platforms/policies page.



2024 GENERAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE For Voters in Anderson, IN

**Get Informed by following this non-partisan guide.
Take as little as 5-10 minutes and as much as 1-2 hours**

FOR VOTING INFORMATION GO TO [HTTPS://INDIANAVOTERS.IN.GOV/](https://indianavoters.in.gov/)

PREPARE TO VOTE

IMPORTANT dates and resources:

- **Election Day:** Tuesday, November 5, 2024, 6am-6pm. Choose ANY convenient site.
- **Early voting begins** October 8, 2024 and ends 12 noon November 4. For early voting polling place and hours visit indianavoters.in.gov
- **Satellite early-voting centers in Madison County and Election day voting sites:**
https://www.madisoncounty.in.gov/_files/ugd/918579_a5444c4427164912970d37e8fd6b6548.pdf
- **Absentee info:** in.gov/sos/elections/voter-information/ways-to-vote/absentee-voting/

Contact information and Resources that may be helpful:

Election Office: 765-641-9459 Voter Registration Office: 765-641-9657

Madison County General Site: www.madisoncounty.in.gov/

Madison County Election Office: www.madisoncounty.in.gov/departments/election-office

Check your Voter Registration status and your ballot: indianavoters.in.gov/

Learn about Indiana government: www.inbarfoundation.org/indianagovernmentbook/

- **Do your research on the candidates** using this guide and also looking into candidate websites, social media pages and even emailing or calling them with questions, concerns and comments you have as a concerned citizen.
- **Take your candidate list of who you plan to vote for to the ballot box.** This could be written down on a piece of paper or noted on your phone. Websites like ballotready.org allow you to create your list and print it off. You are allowed to do this.
- **Choose 1-3 elected offices to research and vote for** if you feel overwhelmed about searching all of the candidates. There is no rule that you have to research and vote for every single office.



KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES WHEN YOU VOTE



SNAPSHOT OF FEDERAL RACE CANDIDATES

President and Vice President of the United States of America

Role description: The President of the United States (POTUS) is the head of the United States government and is part of the Executive branch of government.

Incumbent: This is the person who currently holds an office.

Note:

- Names placed in alphabetical order, by party. Information obtained through candidate campaign materials, social media, candidate websites, and directly from candidates.

Presidential Candidates

- **Kamala Harris/Tim Walz (D)**
 - Website: <https://kamalaharris.com/issues/>
 - Platform: https://ballotpedia.org/Kamala_Harris_presidential_campaign,_2024
- **Donald J. Trump/JD Vance (R)**
 - Website: <https://www.donaldjtrump.com/platform>
 - Platform: https://ballotpedia.org/Donald_Trump
- **Chase Oliver/Mike Ter Maat (L)**
 - Website: <https://votechaseoliver.com/platform/>
- **Robert F. Kennedy/Nicole Sheridan (We the People)**
 - Website: <https://www.kennedy24.com/policies>
 - *Candidate withdrew from Presidential Race late. He may or may not be listed on the ballot.



SNAPSHOT OF FEDERAL RACE CANDIDATES



US Senator

Role description: The US Senate is one of the two chambers of the United States Congress and part of the legislative branch of federal government where bills are written and laws pass or fail. “Each of the 50 states is given two Senate seats. Washington D.C. and territories, such as Puerto Rico and Guam, do not receive any delegates to the Senate.” (Ballotpedia)

US Senator Candidates

- **Valerie McCray (D)**
 - Website: <https://valeriemccray.org/platform>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/drvaleriemccrayussenate2024>
 - Endorsements: MadVoters, Muncie Resists, Indiana AFL-CIO and Mental Health Now.
- **Jim Banks (R)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - Website: <https://banksforsenate.com/issues/>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TeamJimBanks>
 - Endorsements: None sent to CLA
- **Andrew Horning (L)**
 - Website: <https://horningforsenate.com/issues/>
 - Ballotpedia: https://ballotpedia.org/Andy_Horning
 - Facebook personal: <https://www.facebook.com/thefreedomfarm/>
 - Facebook campaign: <https://www.facebook.com/TheAndyHorning/>
 - Podcasts on Rumble: <https://rumble.com/user/AndrewHorning>
 - Book on Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BJ46CHG5>
 - Endorsements: Candidate stated “No, the endorsement/Donor Class game is not a good thing as practiced today. It’s in fact, mostly very divisive and corrupting. I’ve been endorsed by organizations and people, but I’d rather avoid group think, and ask voters to make their own judgments based on their own research.”



SNAPSHOT OF FEDERAL RACE CANDIDATES



United States House of Representatives- 5th Congressional District

Role description: The US House of Representatives, often referred to as the “House”, is one of the two chambers of the United States Congress and part of the legislative branch of federal government where bills are written and laws pass or fail. “Each state receives representation in the House in proportion to the size of its population but is entitled to at least one representative. There are currently 435 representatives, a number fixed by law since 1911.” Indiana has 9 representatives in the US House (Ballotpedia).

Incumbent: This is the person who currently holds an office.

Note:

- Names placed in alphabetical order, by party. Information obtained through candidate campaign materials, social media, candidate websites, and directly from candidates. Ballotpedia sites listed only if candidate completed the Candidate Connection Survey.

US Representatives- 5th Congressional District Candidates

- **Deborah A. Pickett (D)**
 - Website: <https://pickettforcongress.com/priorities/>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/people/Pickett-For-Congress/61563518640482/>
 - Endorsements: Candidate stated “I am not seeking any endorsements. But I am seeking to earn the respect and vote of my fellow Hoosiers to elect me as their next Congresswoman. My campaign is about getting to know my constituents and highlighting all of the treasures and wonderful people in the 5th District.”
- **Victoria Spartz (R-incumbent)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - Website: <https://www.spartzforcongress.com/issues/>
 - Facebook: [Representative Victoria Spartz](#)
 - Endorsements: None sent to CLA



SNAPSHOT OF FEDERAL RACE CANDIDATES



US Representatives- 5th Congressional District Candidates Continued

- **Robby Slaughter (I)**
 - Website: <https://issues.robbyslaughter.com/>
 - Facebook: [Robby Slaughter for Congress](#)
 - X: <https://x.com/robbyslaughter>
 - LinkedIn: <https://linkedin.com/in/robbyslaughter>
 - Endorsements: Candidate stated “No; and I think in an era where trust is so low, politicians need to focus more than ever on their own message rather than seeking endorsements or aligning themselves with others. We all must stand on our own, and rely on voters to decide for themselves who is worthy of their trust.”
- **Lauri Shillings (L)**
 - Website: <https://www.lauriforliberty.com/policies>
 - Facebook: [Lauri for Liberty](#)
 - X: <https://x.com/LauriforLiberty>
 - Endorsements: Candidate stated “Not at this time.”



SNAPSHOT OF STATE RACE CANDIDATES



Governor

Role description: “The governor is the chief executive of the state. The governor’s position in Indiana’s government is comparable to that of the president in the federal government. The governor occupies the position through powers granted directly by the constitution and by statute, and through the powers that stem from the governor’s right to appoint and remove personnel in administrative departments.” (Here is Your Indiana Government, 2024-2025, p. 15). The Governor has the following general duties and responsibilities:

- “Governors are responsible for implementing state laws and overseeing the operation of the state executive branch....”
- They “advance and pursue new and revised policies and programs using a variety of tools, among them executive orders, executive budgets, and legislative proposals and vetoes.
- As chiefs of the state, Governors serve as the intergovernmental liaison to the federal government on behalf of the state.” (National Governors Association, 2024)

“The governor is popularly elected every four years by a plurality and is limited to two consecutive terms with at least a four-year span before the same individual may hold the office again” (Ballotpedia).

Incumbent: This is the person who currently holds an office.

Note: Names placed in alphabetical order, by party. Information obtained through candidate campaign materials, social media, candidate websites, and directly from candidates.

Governor Candidates

- **Jennifer G. McCormick (D)**
 - Website: <https://www.mccormickforgov.com/issues>
 - Endorsements: Indiana State Teachers Association, American Federation Teachers-Indiana, Planned Parenthood, Mad Voters, Moms Demand Action, Mental Health Now. Complete list: <https://www.mccormickforgov.com/endorsements>
- **Mike Braun (R)**
 - Website: <https://www.braun.senate.gov/about/results-hoosiers/>
 - Complete Endorsement list: <https://mikebraunforindiana.com/endorsements/>
Endorsements: President Donald Trump, Indiana State Police Alliance, National Troopers Coalition, Indiana Right to Life, “A” Rating from NRA, CPAC, Club for Growth, Americans for Prosperity, Central Midwest Regional Council of Carpenters



SNAPSHOT OF STATE RACE CANDIDATES



Governor Candidates Continued

- **Donald Rainwater (L)**
 - Website: <https://www.rainwaterforindiana.com/>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rainwater4indiana/>
 - X: <https://x.com/RainwaterForIN>
 - Endorsements: None stated by candidate.



SNAPSHOT OF STATE RACE CANDIDATES



Attorney General

Role description: “Indiana’s attorney general represents Indiana in every lawsuit in which the state has an interest unless there is a conflict or legal obstacle to handling the case.

- In the criminal context, the attorney general handles all appeals from criminal convictions, and participates in post-conviction relief petitions on death penalty cases at the trial court level.
- The office provides unofficial advisory opinions to the governor, state elected officers, and members of the General Assembly.
- The Attorney General is a designated member of several committees, councils, etc.”

“The office of the attorney general focuses on the following 11 key areas: 1. Advisory and opinions 2. Appeals 3. Consumer protection 4. Identity 5. Theft 6. Litigation 7. Medicaid fraud 8. Patient abuse and neglect 9. Solicitor general, telephone privacy 10. Tobacco enforcement 11. Unclaimed property”

“Indiana’s attorney general is a statutory office elected every four years (in the same year the governor is elected). An attorney general may be elected to an unlimited number of terms. Following election in November, the attorney general assumes office on the second Monday in January” (Here is Your Indiana Government, 2024-2025, p. 22).

Incumbent: This is the person who currently holds an office.

Note:

- Names placed in alphabetical order, by party. Information obtained through candidate campaign materials, social media, candidate websites, and directly from candidates.

Attorney General Candidates

- **Destiny Wells (D)**
 - Website: <https://www.wellsforindiana.com/positions>
 - Endorsements: Vote Vets, VoteMama, the Sierra Club, the United Steelworkers, the AFL-CIO, Our Choice Coalition, Planned Parenthood, the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150, and the United Transportation Union.
- **Todd Rokita (R, incumbent)**
 - Website: <https://toddrokita.com/issues/>
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - Endorsements: None sent to CLA.



SNAPSHOT OF STATE RACE CANDIDATES



Indiana State House of Representatives

Role description: “The Indiana House of Representatives is the lower chamber of the Indiana General Assembly. Alongside the Indiana State Senate, it forms the legislative branch of the Indiana state government and works alongside the governor of Indiana to create laws and establish a state budget. Legislative authority and responsibilities of the Indiana House of Representatives include passing bills on public policy matters, setting levels for state spending, raising and lowering taxes, and voting to uphold or override gubernatorial vetoes.” There are 100 Statehouse representative seats. (Ballotpedia)

Incumbent: This is the person who currently holds an office.

Note:

- Names placed in alphabetical order, by party. Information obtained through candidate campaign materials, social media, candidate websites, and directly from candidates.

Indiana State House of Representatives Candidates

State Representative, District 031

- **Lori J. Gross-Reaves (R, incumbent)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - IGA site: https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2024/legislators/legislator_iori_goss_reaves_1
 - Ballotpedia: https://ballotpedia.org/Lori_Goss-Reaves
 - Endorsements: None were sent to CLA
- **No Democratic Candidate filed**

State Representative, District 035

- **Philip G. (Phil) Gift (D)**
 - Website: <https://www.phil4house35.com/issues>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/phil4house35/>
 - Endorsements: American Federation of Teachers, the Indiana Coalition for Public Education, United Auto Workers, the Our Choice Coalition, and the American Federation of Government Employees.



SNAPSHOT OF STATE RACE CANDIDATES



Indiana State House of Representatives Candidates Continued

State Representative, District 035 Continued

- **Elizabeth Rowray (R, incumbent)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - Website: https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2024/legislators/legislator_elizabeth_rowray_1/
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/elizabeth.rowray>
 - Ballotpedia: https://ballotpedia.org/Elizabeth_Rowray
 - Endorsements: None were sent to CLA

State Representative, District 036

- **Thonja Nicholson (D)**
 - Website: <https://hoosiersforthonja.com/>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thonja.nicholson.7?mibextid=LQQJ4d>
 - Cell: 765-606-0450
 - Email: thonja@hoosiersforthonja.com
 - Endorsements: Better Indiana PAC, AFT Local 519, AFT Indiana, M.A.D. Voters, Our Choice Coalition PAC, Indiana AFL-CIO, UAW
- **Kyle Pierce (R- incumbent)**
 - Website: <https://www.pierceforindiana.com/issues-1>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PierceForIndiana>
 - Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/pierceforindiana/>
 - IGA: https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2024/legislators/legislator_kyle_pierce_1
 - Endorsements: Indiana Professional Firefighters PAC, Indiana Farm Bureau PAC, National Federation of Independent Business- Indiana, Humane Society Legislative Fund of Indiana (1 of only 2 Republican legislators to receive this endorsement in the state)



SNAPSHOT OF STATE RACE CANDIDATES



Indiana State House of Representatives Candidates Continued

State Representative, District 053

- **Nate Anderson (D)**

- This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- Website: <https://nateforindiana.com/priorities/>
- Ballotpedia: https://ballotpedia.org/Nate_Anderson
- Facebook: [Nate Anderson for Indiana](#)
- Endorsements: None were sent to CLA

- **Ethan J. Lawson (R)**

- This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- Website: <https://www.lawsonforindiana.com/>
- Ballotpedia: https://ballotpedia.org/Ethan_Lawson
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LawsonForIndiana>
- Endorsements: None were sent to CLA

State Representative, District 088

- **Stephanie Jo Yocum (D)**

- This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- Website: www.stephaniejoyocum.com
- Ballotpedia: https://ballotpedia.org/Stephanie_Yocum
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/yocumforindiana>
- Endorsements: None were sent to CLA

- **Chris Jeter (R, incumbent)**

- Website: <https://chrisjeter.com/>
- Ballotpedia: https://ballotpedia.org/Chris_Jeter
- IGA: https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2024/legislators/legislator_chris_jeter_1/
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JeterforIndiana>
- This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- Endorsements: None were sent to CLA



SNAPSHOT OF LOCAL RACE CANDIDATES



Circuit Court Judge

Role Description: A judge that has authority to hear most case types within a county. Madison county has six circuit court judges and within those there are magistrates and commissioners that aid the judge with the cases. “The Indiana Supreme Court approves local rules for caseload allocation” (Here is Your Indiana Government, 2024-2025, p. 109)

For a directory visit <https://www.in.gov/courts/files/court-directory.pdf>

Note: There is only one circuit court judge up for election this year (in this case re-election). Voters elect judges of the Circuit Courts in partisan elections every six years.

Circuit Court Judge District 3 Candidate

- **Andrew Hopper (R, incumbent)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- **No Democratic Candidate filed**



SNAPSHOT OF LOCAL RACE CANDIDATES



Madison County Commissioner

Role Description: Each Indiana county is governed by a Board of Commissioners consisting of 3 elected persons. In Madison County “the commissioners are elected from separate districts (in which they must reside)” but by vote of the county as a whole ... “The terms of office of county commissioners are four years on a staggered basis: two run during a presidential election year, and in the off two-year election cycle, the third commissioner runs” (Here is Your Indiana Government, 2024-2025, pp. 40-41)

“The three commissioners are the custodians of the home rule powers of the county. They are the executive body of the county.” The oversight, duties, and powers of commissioners include but are not limited to the following:

- County buildings, lands and property
 - Audits and authorizes claims against the county
 - Receiving bids and authorizing contracts
 - Supervising many County departments
 - Overseeing construction and maintenance of roads and bridges
 - Exercising many of the legislative powers and duties of the county
- (Indiana County Commissioners, 2023)

There are three county districts but this year District 1 is not up for election, just Districts 2 and 3. **Voters will vote for commissioners in both districts.**

Madison County Commissioner Candidates

Madison County Commissioner District #2

- **Ollie H Dixon (D)**
 - Email: olliehdixon@aol.com
 - Phone: 765-621-3313
 - Family business: 2441 West 25th Street
 - Endorsements: “At this time, I am endorsed by the UAW's CAP Council, and I am a Proud Forever Union Member.”
- **Rick Gardner (R)**
 - Ballotpedia:
[https://ballotpedia.org/Rick_Gardner_\(Madison_County_Commissioner_Board_District_2,_Indiana,_candidate_2024\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Rick_Gardner_(Madison_County_Commissioner_Board_District_2,_Indiana,_candidate_2024))
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.



SNAPSHOT OF LOCAL RACE CANDIDATES



Madison County Commissioner Candidates Continued

Madison County Commissioner District #2 continued

- **Rick Gardner (R) continued**
 - rg2119@gmail.com
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ElectRickGardner>
 - Endorsements: None were sent to CLA
- **Marquest Higgins (L)**
 - Website: <http://www.madisonprosperity.com>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61561396801515>
 - Endorsements: Candidate stated "While I don't have the endorsements of political insiders or big-name organizations, that's not where my focus is. I'm committed to earning your trust, not through backroom deals or political favors, but by staying true to my values of transparency, integrity, and service to our community. My endorsement comes from the people of Madison County, who are tired of the same old promises that never deliver. I'm endorsed by every resident who's ready for real change, transparency, and leadership that's focused on progress—not personal gain."

Madison County Commissioner District #3

- **John M. Richwine (R)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- **No Democratic Candidate filed**



SNAPSHOT OF LOCAL RACE CANDIDATES



Madison County Council

Role Description: "The financial powers of a county are placed in the county council, which serves as a check on the board of commissioners and board of finance." Their duties include but aren't limited to: "adopting the annual budget,...incurring county debt within constitutional limits,...appropriating additional funds that arise,...re-appropriating surplus funds," and "fixing salaries of officers, deputies, assistants, and employees whose salaries are payable from any county fund."

"For election purposes, each county is divided into four districts, with one council member elected from each district. In addition, three council members are elected from the county at large, thus making a total of seven council members" (Here is Your Indiana Government, 2024-2025, p.44). This election, you will be voting on at-large county council candidates.

Madison County Council Candidates, At Large

You will select three (3) only on the ballot.

- **Rebecca (Becky) Crumes (D)**
 - Email: rcrumes@sbcglobal.net
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rebecca.crumes>
 - Endorsements: Candidate stated "We the People must get involved in this government, we may not always agree, however we still have the right to choose and participate in our elections."
- **Stephen Holtzleiter (D)**
 - Email: slholtzleiter@ymail.com
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/steve.holtzleiter.3>
 - Endorsements: Madison County CAP, and Friends of Madison County
- **Fred Reese Jr. (D)**
 - Email: freese2@yahoo.com
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fred.reese.351>
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and requested CLA use his answers on our Primary Voter Guide.
 - Endorsements: None were sent to CLA



SNAPSHOT OF LOCAL RACE CANDIDATES



Madison County Council Candidates, At Large Continued

You will select three (3) only on the ballot.

- **Jonathan Culp (R)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - Email: jonathan.a.culp@gmail.com
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/committeetoelectjonathanaculp>
 - Endorsements: None were sent to CLA
- **Kristi A Grabowski (R)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - Email: lectkristigrabowski@gmail.com
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553712927554>
 - Endorsements: None were sent to CLA
- **Scott Green (R)**
 - Email: scottgreenforcountycouncil@gmail.com
 - Website: <https://www.scottgreenforcountycouncil.com/>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/scottgreenforcountycouncil>
 - Endorsements: Candidate stated “I am endorsed by the bipartisan Friends of Madison County, a group who researches and interviews candidates from all parties to make recommendations.”
- **Brandon Collins (L)**
 - Website: collinsforcountycouncil.com
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/brandon.collins.395891>
 - Endorsements: Candidate stated “While I haven’t sought out formal endorsements, I believe that my strongest endorsement comes directly from the people of this county. Having lived here my entire life, I understand the unique challenges and opportunities we face, and my campaign is built on the values that resonate with our community: transparency, accountability, and a commitment to rooting out corruption and nepotism in local government. I’m running to serve the interests of every resident, not to cater to the agendas of special interest groups or political insiders. My campaign is driven by the trust and support of my neighbors, and that’s the most meaningful endorsement I could ask for.”



SNAPSHOT OF LOCAL RACE CANDIDATES



Madison County Auditor

Role description: “The auditor is a constitutional officer, elected for a four-year term from the county at large but prohibited from serving more than two terms in 12 years. The auditor serves as secretary of the board of commissioners and county council.”

“Duties of the auditor as the fiscal officer of the county include keeping the county’s accounts and issuing warrants for the payment of claims following an audit of the expenditure.”

“The auditor is required to provide all taxing entities with estimates of assessed valuations and estimates of taxes to be received. Real estate abatement and TIF calculations are done on an annual basis by the auditor” (Here is Your Indiana Government, 2024-2025, p. 47). There are many other duties of the Auditor that can be found in the Here is Your Indiana Government book.

- **Todd Culp (R)- Anderson, IN**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/todd.culp.90>
- **No Democratic Candidate Filed**

Madison County Coroner

Role description: The main duties of the County Coroner include, when people die; 1. the identifying of the deceased; 2. Determining of the cause of death; and 3. Determination of the manner of death. (IN.gov)

- **Robert E. Glazebrooks II (D)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61557430742629>
- **Adam Matson (R)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - Guide creators could not find social media or webpage for this candidate.



SNAPSHOT OF LOCAL RACE CANDIDATES



Madison County Surveyor

Role Description: “The surveyor is a constitutional officer, elected for a four-year term by the voters of an entire county. There is no restriction upon eligibility for re-election.

“The primary duties of the surveyor are to survey and keep records of all section corners throughout the county. The surveyor must supervise all civil engineering work of the county”...” the surveyor serves as a member of the county drainage board and as a member of the county planning commission”...” The surveyor is required to prepare, maintain and keep in custody a record book showing maps of each section, grant, tract, subdivision, or group of such areas in sufficient detail.”...”The surveyor is authorized to appoint as many deputies and assistants as the work requires, subject to budget limitations and approval of the county council” (Here is Your Indiana Government, 2024-2025, p. 50).

- **Ken Kocinski (R)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kocinskiken>
- **No Democratic Candidate Filed**



SNAPSHOT OF LOCAL RACE CANDIDATES



Anderson School Board

Role Description: Anderson, IN school board members are elected. “School boards establish the direction and structure of their school districts by adopting policies through the authority granted by the state legislature. School board policies have the force of law equal to statutes or ordinances. Policies establish directions for the district; they set the goals, assign authority, and establish controls that make school governance and management possible. These policies are one of the means by which educators are accountable to the public” (Here is Your Indiana Government, 2024-2025, p. 101).

Note: Each candidate running is either running to represent a city district or for at-large. **No matter what district you live in, you vote for all of the school board positions**, whether they are a district or at-large. School board candidates do not run under a party affiliation.

Anderson School Board Candidates

- **Ted Bitner, Central District 1**
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/trbitner>
 - Learn more: <https://www.depauw.edu/academics/departments-programs/psychology/research/faculty/bitner/>
 - Endorsements: None stated.
- **Rodney Chamberlain, Central District 1**
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rodney.chamberlain.18>
 - Email: rodney.chamberlain@att.net; rchamberlain@yahoo.com
 - Endorsements: Candidate stated “I didn’t get the Endorsement from AFT, however I will represent all Students and Faculty Teachers with respect and fairness. Making sure that everyone gets the same opportunities to be successful in this Educational process.”
- **Peter Lyon, Central District 1**
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/peter.lyon.75>
 - Endorsements: The Anderson Federation of Teachers
- **Martha Baker Green, South District 1**
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/martha.b.green>
 - Endorsements: The Anderson Federation of Teachers Union



SNAPSHOT OF LOCAL RACE CANDIDATES



Anderson School Board Candidates Continued

- **Kenneth Hodson, South District 1**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- **Lindsay Brown, East District 2**
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/lindsay.d.brown>
 - Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/lindsaybrown100/>
 - Endorsements: Candidate stated "The key endorsements I would like to highlight are the countless teachers with in ACSC that reach out to me, and that are afraid to speak up due to retaliation. I am endorsed by the voiceless that need to be heard."
- **Holly Renz, East District 2**
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/holly.renz.5>
 - Email: hollyarenz@gmail.com
 - Endorsements: The Anderson Federation of Teachers #519

Platforms

CANDIDATE PLATFORMS

Presidential Candidate Platforms



- **Kamala Harris (D)**

- Harris' campaign website stated the following as the main issues of the campaign. To see more details on each, visit <https://kamalaharris.com/issues/>
- Build an opportunity economy and lower costs for families:
 - Cut taxes for middle class families
 - Make rent more affordable and home ownership more attainable
 - Grow small businesses and invest in entrepreneurs
 - Take on bad actors and bring down costs
 - Strengthen and bring down the cost of health care
 - Protect and strengthen Social Security and Medicare
 - Support American innovation and workers
 - Provide a pathway to the middle class through quality, affordable education
 - Invest in affordable child care and long term care
 - Lower energy costs and tackle the climate crisis
- Safeguard our fundamental freedoms
 - Restore and protect reproductive freedoms
 - Protect civil rights and freedoms
- Ensure safety and justice for all
 - Make our communities safer from gun violence and crime
 - Secure our borders and fix our broken immigration system
 - Tackle the opioid and fentanyl crisis
 - Ensure no one is above the law
- Keep America safe, secure and prosperous
 - Stand with our allies, stand up to dictators, and lead on the world stage
 - Invest in America's sources of strength
 - Support service members, veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors

Platforms



CANDIDATE PLATFORMS

Presidential Candidate Platforms Continued



- **Donald Trump (R)**

- Trump's campaign website stated the following as the 20 Core Promises to Make America Great Again. To see more details on each, visit <https://www.donaldjtrump.com/platform>
- 1. Seal the border and stop the migrant invasion.
- 2. Carry out the largest deportation operation in American History
- 3. End inflation, and make America affordable again
- 4. Make America the dominant energy producer in the world, by far!
- 5. Stop outsourcing, and turn the United States into a manufacturing superpower
- 6 Large tax cuts for workers, and no tax on tips!
- 7. Defend our Constitution, our Bill of Rights and our fundamental freedoms, including freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the right to keep and bear arms.
- 8. Prevent World War three, restore peace in Europe and in the Middle East, and build a great iron dome missile defense shield over our entire country—all made in America.
- 9. End the weaponization of government against the American people.
- 10. Stop the migrant crime epidemic, demolish the foreign drug cartels, crush gang violence, and lock up violent offenders
- 11. Rebuild our cities, including Washington DC, making them safe, clean, and beautiful again.
- 12. Strengthen and modernize our military, making it, without question, the strongest and most powerful in the world
- 13. Keep the U.S. dollar as the world's reserve currency
- 14. Fight for and protect Social Security and Medicare with no cuts, including no changes to the retirement age
- 15. Cancel the electric vehicle mandate and cut costly and burdensome regulations.
- 16. Cut federal funding for any school pushing Critical Race Theory, Radical Gender Ideology, and other inappropriate racial, sexual, or political content on our children
- 17. Keep men out of women's sports
- 18. Deport pro-Hamas radicals and make our college campuses safe and patriotic again
- 19. Secure our elections, including same day voting, voter identification, paper ballots, and proof of citizenship
- 20. Unite our country by bringing it to new and record levels of success

Platforms

CANDIDATE PLATFORMS

Presidential Candidate Platforms Continued



- **Chase Oliver (L)**

- Oliver's campaign website states the following are "What Chase Stands For." To see full statements, visit Oliver's website, <https://votechaseoliver.com/platform/>
- Cost of Living & Inflation
 - "Government overspending and reckless money printing are fueling skyrocketing costs, hurting those who can least afford it. By slashing spending and balancing the budget, we can crush inflation and ignite a stronger, more vibrant economy that works for everyone."
- Economy
 - "Americans are struggling in an economy where the government and special interests dictate the rules. To end these cycles of economic crises, we must reduce government interference and let individuals decide how to spend their hard-earned money, sparking real innovation."
- Immigration
 - "Our immigration system is outdated and inefficient. It's time to break the partisan gridlock and simplify the process so immigrants can come, work, and thrive as part of our communities. Immigrants built America, and they're key to its future."
- Healthcare
 - "Healthcare costs are skyrocketing due to government overreach. By embracing market-driven options like Direct Primary Care and reforming drug approval processes, we can lower prices and increase access. More choices mean lower costs!"
- Education
 - "To fix education, we need to cut federal involvement. Abolish the Department of Education, return funds to states and taxpayers, and get the government out of student loans to drive down costs."
- War & Foreign Policy
 - "For too long, our nation has been entangled in endless wars, leaving scars on our veterans and their families. It's time to pivot to a foreign policy focused on peace. We need to end drone strikes and military interventions, and instead champion free trade and international goodwill. Let's reclaim our role as the 'leader of the free world' by pursuing peace and serving as a beacon of hope."
- Individual Choice
 - "No government should regulate personal activities or impose harsh penalties. We must end the death penalty, corporate bailouts, drug criminalization, abortion restrictions before viability, and excessive employment regulations."

Platforms



CANDIDATE PLATFORMS



Presidential Candidate Platforms Continued

- **Chase Oliver (L) Continued**

- Individual Choice
 - The government shouldn't draft citizens, tax individuals excessively, mandate medical treatments, or censor private communication.
- Criminal Justice Reform
 - "Our criminal justice system is broken and needs a radical overhaul. From courts to prisons, we must focus on empowering people, not expanding government control. America imprisons a quarter of the world's inmates—an injustice in a nation that prides itself on freedom. We must dismantle the prison-industrial complex, end the failed War on Drugs, and eliminate qualified immunity for police. Abolishing the death penalty and ensuring police accountability are crucial steps towards a just and fair system. Let's shift from punishment to rehabilitation and make our justice system a true beacon of freedom."
- Privacy
 - "The worst abuses often come under the guise of safety. With warrantless wiretaps, FISA court abuses, and the overreaching Patriot Act, our freedoms are under threat. As President, Chase will dismantle these invasive programs, restore your privacy rights, and pardon whistleblowers who reveal government misconduct. Your liberty is worth defending!"
- Green Energy
 - "Chase will transform environmental policy by slashing red tape and embracing market-driven, science-backed solutions. His plan: end wars, respect tribal sovereignty, ensure energy independence, and champion smart deregulation."
- Gun Rights
 - "You deserve the right to protect yourself from violence. History shows that gun control has often been used to limit the ability of vulnerable groups like you to defend yourself. I'm committed to ensuring you can exercise your right to self-defense, appointing judges who uphold this right, and fighting against any restrictions that undermine your safety. Let's keep our communities secure and support your right to protection."
- Term Limits
 - "Chase supports term limits for all federal officials—elected or appointed—to keep government fresh and accountable. Term limits ensure new perspectives and reduce wasteful spending, while agency leaders must face regular reviews for reappointment."
- Chase Endorses the Voter Bill of Rights by Lars Mapstead

- **Robert F. Kennedy (We the People):** Candidate withdrew late and may or may not be on the ballot.

Q & A



CANDIDATE RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS



All candidates were asked the same questions by the creators of this guide. Here are their answers in their own words.

We chose to ask questions of candidates running for the following positions:

- Federal: US Senators, US Representatives
- State: Governor, Attorney General, State Representatives
- Local: County Commissioners, County Council Members, Anderson School Board

In the past we only asked questions of local candidates running for select positions and this election we expanded to candidates running for state and federal offices in order to help voters be as informed as possible in multiple levels of government.

We recognize the candidate answer lengths vary. We want to provide their full answers so that we do not take away from anything they responded with. Their websites and contact information is toward the beginning of the guide in the “Snapshot” sections.

Note: Names listed in alphabetical order and by party.

Questions asked:

1. What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?
2. What are the three key messages of your campaign?
3. If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?
4. Are there any key endorsements you would like us to highlight?
5. What social media or website can voters interact with you from?

US Senator Candidates' Q & A Responses

- **Valerie McCray (D)**
 - **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - My name is Dr. Valerie McCray and I'm working hard to become your next U.S. Senator representing the great State of Indiana. With 35 years in the psychology field (25 years as a licensed Psychologist), I've witnessed how U.S. policies profoundly affect the mental well-being of our people. I've worked directly with veterans struggling with PTSD, incarcerated individuals in desperate need of support and rehabilitation, youth struggling to overcome the effects of violence, and more. It's clear that mental health must be a national priority and we cannot address our nation's challenges one mental health crisis at a time. That's why I'm running for U.S. Senate.
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - Women's Rights to Reproductive Freedoms: **The right of a woman to make autonomous decisions about her own body/reproductive functions is at the core of her basic human rights to equality, medical privacy, & bodily integrity.**

Q & A

US SENATOR CANDIDATE RESPONSES

US Senator Candidates' Q & A Responses Continued



- **Valerie McCray (D) responses continued**

- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**

- I will push for legislation that protects access nationally to abortion with FDA-approved medication/procedures & defend access to emergency medical care & everyday reproductive care. Affordable contraception to anyone who wants and needs it. Safeguard the privacy of patients/providers & ensure they have accurate information and legal resources necessary. For those choosing to grow their family, ensure they have adequate access to resources and for pay for quality of life.
- **Healthcare & Mental Health For All: Equitable, quality healthcare SHOULD BE a fundamental right for all people; not a privilege for the wealthy few. Millions of Americans are one bad diagnosis away from going broke. It's time for a system that is focused on patients, not profits.** In Congress, I will be committed to finding constructive ways to improve our nation's health care system, expand access to quality and affordable health care, and reduce costs for middle-class families no matter their income, race, gender, zip code, or medical diagnosis. I will make it a priority to end abusive pricing practices by the pharmaceutical industry and give patients a break at the pharmacy counter. I will support increases for health and science research to invest in tomorrow's cures.
- **Affordable Housing: Affordable housing is a right and a necessity and is significant in building the foundation for a better Indiana.** Housing costs are significant factor contributing to homelessness, financial instability, housing insecurity, and extreme stress for many individuals and families. Everyone should have a safe, affordable place to sleep and raise their families. When I'm in Congress, I will focus on ways to ensure housing remains accessible and affordable for middle class families.

- **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**

- Relentlessly, I will fight for women's rights to choose, beyond-subsistence wages, unions, healthcare for all, equal rights for everyone, strengthening public education, and repealing Citizens United so people (not corporations) can be truly represented. In addition, I will champion student loan debt reduction, closing the wealth gap, and funding environmental restoration efforts. I am both compassionate and fierce, and can relate to the struggles of working class Hoosiers.

Q & A



US SENATOR CANDIDATE RESPONSES

US Senator Candidates' Q & A Responses Continued



- **Jim Banks (R)**

- This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- If you want to learn more about Banks' views on the following, visit his website <https://banksforsenate.com/issues/>:
 - Secure the Border, Defend Life, Support Our Veterans, Prioritize National Defense, Oppose Wokeness in Schools and Sports, Unleash the American Economy, Stop Reckless Spending and Reduce the National Debt, Secure Our Elections, Back the Blue, and Stand with Our Ally Israel.

- **Andrew Horning (L)**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - I've three decades of experience both inside Establishment politics, and fighting it. My protests have made national news. I've been a weekly columnist in Indiana's biggest daily newspaper, and an Adjunct Scholar with the Indiana Policy Review with expertise in constitutions, state and federal. One of my books is mostly about, and contains, the federal constitution. Most unusually, I've a long record of being demonstrably predictive and correct, when our politicians have proven to be egregiously, destructively wrong.
- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - a. I'm the only constitutionalist, so I'm the only one offering a proven course to more justice, peace, prosperity, security and freedom...and less of all the division, debt, fear, violence and of course, corruption.
 - b. Since I'm the only one who's opposing, and not voluntarily representing and sustaining, the self-appointed, anti-constitutional, inherently divisive and corrupt "Two Party System" our founders warned against, I'm the only one who can even talk about corruption with a straight face.
 - c. I'm the only vote that says "ENOUGH ALREADY!" Any vote for even the best D or R candidate sustains what we know is unsustainable, and tearing us apart. I'm the only choice for voters who want to send a strong message that we want a change of course.
- **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - That I served the nation as a political marriage counselor – healing the damage caused by the increasingly angry tribalism of partisan politics. And that I gave cover to the many fine D and R politicians to do the right thing; as I know many

Q & A



US SENATOR CANDIDATE RESPONSES



US Senator Candidates' Q & A Responses Continued

- **Andrew Horning (L) responses continued**
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - of them are sick of their puppet strings, and playing along with this corrupt charade. I'd like to be known as the guy who helped the nation wake up to individualism, and our individual power and accountability. It is supposed to be We The People, not We The Politicians, y'know. Less trust in politics, and more in each other.

Q & A



US REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE RESPONSES



5th Congressional District US Representative Candidate Responses

- **Deborah Pickett (D)**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**

- My love for my country and love for my fellow Hoosiers arise from my diverse working and living experiences. I served in the U.S. Army Reserve as a behavioral science specialist with the 55th Medical Detachment based at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, and as an intelligence analyst with the 21st Support Command. I understand and appreciate the challenges facing veterans and military personnel and their families, as well as the threats to America's national security. Our world is complex and interconnected and the prevalence and ease of technology allows for bad attacks on our infrastructure from overseas.
 - I also worked at Hudson Institute on their international trade and economic studies and understand the high costs of tariffs and trade barriers on companies and consumers. My experience as a community activist serving on boards and committees in leadership positions allows me to understand the issues nearest and dearest to Hoosiers that impact their daily lives and spiritual and emotional well-being.

- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**

- My three messages are:
 - 1. I will work to protect and advance our democratic republic and the institutions that safeguard our freedoms and provide a framework for governing ourselves.
 - 2. Protect and restore our personal rights which include our reproductive rights and other rights to marry, love and be the master of our own destiny.
 - 3. Work for efficient and effective government that delivers on its promises to hard working Hoosiers. Funding Social Security without gamesmanship and for the long term and improving healthcare options for Hoosiers are top priorities.

- **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**

- I cared about my constituents. I listened to them and I served them with integrity, hard work and competence.

- **Victoria Spartz (R-incumbent)**

- This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - If you want to learn more about Spartz's views on the following, visit her website

Q & A



US REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE RESPONSES



5th Congressional District US Representative Candidate Responses

- **Victoria Spartz (R-incumbent) responses continued**
 - <https://www.spartzforcongress.com/issues/>:
 - Constitution and Bill of Rights, Spending and Debt, Immigration and Border Security, National Defense and Military, Healthcare, Education, Government Transparency and Accountability, Business Regulations, and Term Limits
- **Robby Slaughter (I)**
 - **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - I am a fair-minded, even handed person. I take great care to find facts and evidence, and I am willing to change my mind if someone presents a stronger argument. I am empathetic and devoted. And most importantly, I am not a career politician, but an everyday citizen who wants to serve my country and my community by helping in whatever way I can.
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - The greatest issue in our country today is not the economy, it's not foreign policy, it's not education, or even immigration. Our singular crisis is that we **no longer trust our leaders**. Without trust, virtually nothing is possible. And the only way to restore trust is to spend time in communities, getting to know real people and understanding the everyday struggles of genuine Americans, and to give up power.
 - That means foremost: **term limits**. The only way to demonstrate our commitment to service is to be willing to peacefully transition power to the next office holder. It also means **radical financial reform and transparency**, so that members of Congress do not become millionaires by exempting themselves from insider trading laws, by taking millions from wealthy donors and special interest groups, and through the corrupt loopholes of the campaign finance system.
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - That he was honest, accessible, and principled.
- **Lauri Shillings (L)**
 - **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - I believe in responsible government spending, modern education, and accessible healthcare. I am a life-long Hoosier with working-class roots who has become exhausted by the disconnect between our federal government and its people. I will bring a locally rooted, common-sense point of view to Washington

Q & A



US REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE RESPONSES

5th Congressional District US Representative Candidate Responses



- **Lauri Shillings (L) responses continued**
 - **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - D.C. I have over 20 years of leadership experience in business ownership, media marketing, and educational organizations, bringing a wealth of expertise to this race. I learned from a very young age the value of civic service and dedication to community.
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - **Inflation:** The government's inability to balance its budget drives inflation, passing the bill onto the people. We MUST curtail government spending at every opportunity to combat our national debt.
 - **Individual Choice:** Individuals may engage in activities that run counter to our personal beliefs. In a free society, the Government has no role to prohibit such behavior as long as people do not resort to violence, force, fraud, or theft. Actions involving abortion, drug use, education, religious beliefs, and personal defense should be left up to individual choice to honor personal bodily autonomy.
 - **Education:** Our education system – more than 200 years old – needs to modernize. I look to free-market approaches to provide education that best suits individual students and their families, while building a system that makes our future workforce competitive in a global marketplace. By promoting modern learning methods, our education system can meet the needs of today's students and prepare them for the future. I also seek an education that encourages the entrepreneurial spirit that built our country.
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - I am not a career politician, nor do I want to be one. I have worked service and labor jobs my entire life in Indiana - from detasseling popcorn, waitressing, bartending, local newspaper graphic designer, to a marketing creative director and adjunct professor in higher education. I would hope that our community felt that I advocated to represent regular voters and their needs, not corporations, life-long politicians, or the elite.

Q & A



GOVERNOR CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Governor Candidate Responses

- **Jennifer McCormick (D)**

- This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- If you want to learn more about McCormick's views on the following, visit her website <https://www.mccormickforgov.com/issues>:
 - Reproductive Rights and Freedoms, World-Class Schools, Thriving Economy, Responsible Government, Environmental Protections, Sustainable Energy, Healthcare, Safe Communities, and Protecting Democracy

- **Mike Braun (R)**

- This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- If you want to learn more about Braun's views on the following, visit his website <https://www.braun.senate.gov/about/results-hoosiers/>:
 - Improving Education, Put Kids First, Protect Parental Rights, Stand Up to Woke Corporations, Healthcare Affordability, Reliable, Affordable, and Clean Energy, Pro-Life means Pro-Family, Standing with Law Enforcement, Keep Our Communities Safe, Securing Our Southern Border, Agriculture, Defend our Constitutional Rights, Election security and reform, No More Mandates or Lockdowns, and Cut Taxes and Reduce the Size of Government.

- **Donald Rainwater (L)**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - I am a professionally certified and experienced project manager. I also have over 3 years of previous experience as a service delivery manager for a vendor working with FSSA, BMV, SoS, DWD, and DoE.
- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - 1. As Governor, I will work to significantly reduce or eliminate property taxes, gasoline excise taxes, individual income taxes, and vehicles excise taxes in Indiana.
 - 2. As Governor, I will work to bring Universal School Choice to Indiana. I believe that every child is unique and should be able to have an educational experience tailored to their specific needs.
 - 3. As Governor, I will work to identify areas in every state agency where we can improve customer service, reduce unnecessary overhead, and make state government more efficient and effective for all Hoosiers.

Q & A



GOVERNOR CANDIDATE RESPONSES

Governor Candidate Responses Continued



- **Donald Rainwater (L)**
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - As Governor, I want to be remembered as the Governor who made Indiana "less taxing" and more efficient for all Hoosiers.

Q & A



ATTORNEY GENERAL CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Attorney General Candidate Responses

- **Destiny Wells (D)**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**

- I grew up on my parents' family farm in Morgan County. I learned the values that Hoosiers hold dear: family, freedom, and opportunity. I will glean from the core values of my time in the military and foster a culture that values professional growth and excellence.

- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**

- I will immediately assemble a team to support workers' rights: Since the passage of the Right to Work in 2011, no Attorney General has provided meaningful support or protections to Indiana workers. I will create a team to investigate instances of worker abuse. and ensure employers treat workers with dignity and respect.
 - Secondly, it's no secret my opponent is constantly meddling in the private medical records of Hoosiers. I will seek to protect Hoosiers' medical privacy, by staying out of Hoosiers' doctor offices and bedrooms.
 - Finally, I will restore integrity and professionalism to the office of the Attorney General, removing politics out of the office.

- **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**

- I will bring a culture of integrity to the Office of the Attorney General that has been missing for more than a decade. Hoosiers won't be able to tell whether a Democrat or Republican leads the office. Instead, Hoosiers will see exceptional attorneys and support staff passionately representing Hoosiers.

- **Todd Rokita (R-incumbent)**

- This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.

- If you want to learn more about Rokita's views on the following, visit his website <https://toddrokita.com/issues/>:

- Keeping Hoosiers Safe, Combatting Biden's Federal Overreach, Protecting Taxpayers, Stopping Fraud and Winning Settlements, Supporting a strong economy and Hoosier jobs, Standing up for parents and against woke ideology, Securing the right to life, Defending our Second Amendment and all Constitutional liberties, Holding China accountable, and Stopping unwanted robocalls and standing up for consumers

Q & A



IN REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE RESPONSES

Indiana State Representative by District Candidate Responses



Note: If Candidate did not respond to our questions but has clear priorities listed on their website, those are listed. Otherwise, the voter is directed to the Snapshot section.

District 31

- **Lori J. Goss-Reaves (R, incumbent)- District 31**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - You can view websites for this candidate in the “Snapshot” section of the Guide
- **No Democratic candidate filed.**

District 35

- **Phil Gift (D)- District 35**
 - **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - I am a registered nurse who spent the last 17 years of my career with the Department of Veterans Affairs. I bring solid healthcare knowledge, compassion, and empathy for others to this position. I realize what it is like to struggle to pay bills, and my basic feeling is that if you have not had trouble paying the light bill at least once in your life, you have no business running for public office. In addition to my background in nursing, I bring strong academic credentials in business, including a Bachelor of Science degree in administrative management.
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - 1) We must respect a woman’s right to choose and maintain autonomy over her body without state interference.
 - 2) We must have a ballot referendum on cannabis legalization. In FY 2023, cannabis taxation brought Illinois \$417.6 million, Michigan \$290.3 million, Ohio \$248.6 million, and Kentucky \$83 million. Indiana’s Republican Super Majority, however, refuses even to put this issue on the ballot.
 - 3) We must eliminate Indiana’s wasteful voucher system and adequately finance our public schools. In the 2023-24 school year, Indiana spent almost half a billion dollars (\$475,000,000) on vouchers—and none of that money went to our public schools.
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - If elected, I would like to be known as a legislator who fights to protect individual human rights and enhance the quality of life for all Hoosiers by ensuring quality public education, access to healthcare, and a decent living wage.

Q & A



IN REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Indiana State Representative by District Candidate Responses Continued

District 35 Continued

- **Elizabeth Rowray (R)- District 35**

- This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- You can view websites for this candidate in the “Snapshot” section of the Guide.

District 36

- **Thonja Nicholson (D)- District 36**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - I am passionate about my community and helping others. I’m a local resident who has lived in Anderson since the sixth grade. I understand the people who live here. My strengths include finding solutions that are creative and sustainable. My heart is with our children and doing everything possible to make their lives better, at school, at home and in the community. They are our future and my passion.
- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - Public School and fully funded Pre-K
 - Mental Healthcare better access
 - Women’s Reproductive Rights
- **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - I hope the voters remember that everything I did was to the benefit of the community. That I listened to them, heard them and then worked hard to fulfil the needs they felt were important. That I was honest, fair and kind. That my communication with them was frequent and understandable.

- **Kyle Pierce (R, incumbent)- District 36**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - Besides my two years serving in this office; I bring nearly a decade’s worth of nonprofit leadership experience as well as small business management, assisting my wife with her communication’s company. My work experience includes serving as a Director of Development at the Ball State University Foundation and Deputy Executive Director at the Indiana Medical Device Manufacturers Council. In terms of my volunteering efforts, I currently serve on the Board of Directors for the Paramount Theatre.

Q & A



IN REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Indiana State Representative by District Candidate Responses Continued

District 36 Continued

- **Kyle Pierce (R, incumbent)- District 36, responses continued**
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - I have and will:
 - Fight to Protect Hoosier Taxpayers, as I did in 2023, helping cut \$430 million in taxes, including \$100 million in property tax relief.
 - Streamline Education Regulations & Promote School Choice.
 - Cut Government Bureaucracy; as I did in 2023, I worked to create a new Government Reform Taskforce through HEA 1623; to find ways to streamline and cut burdensome and outdated government regulations.
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - That I have been a common-sense leader that works with Republicans and Democrats to promote policies that best serve Hoosiers, protects our rights and ensures our freedoms. From co-authoring and passing House Enrolled Act 1422 in 2024 with a Democrat to increase the penalty for drug trafficking with jail inmates; to being the lead sponsor of Senate Enrolled Act 180 also in 2024, a bill that passed with overwhelming bipartisan support, where I worked with a Republican state senator to crack down on Central Bank Digital Currency which would undermine Hoosiers' financial privacy.

District 53

- **Nate Anderson (D)- District 53**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - If you want to learn more about Anderson's views on the following, visit <https://nateforindiana.com/priorities/>:
 - Affordability, Working Class Advocacy, Public School Funding, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Veteran Programs, and Investing in First Responders
- **Ethan Lawson (R)- District 53**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - If you want to learn more about Lawson's views on the following, visit his website

Q & A



IN REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Indiana State Representative by District Candidate Responses Continued

District 53 continued

- **Ethan Lawson (R)- District 53**
 - <https://www.lawsonforindiana.com/priorities>:
 - Responsible Growth, Fight Biden-Harris Inflation and Dysfunction, Fight China's Fentanyl, Proudly Support our Military, Public Safety, and First Responders, Hoosier Values, Defending the 2nd Amendment, and Promoting Learning

District 88

- **Stephanie Jo Yocum (D)- District 88**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - If you want to learn more about Yocum's views on the following, visit <https://www.stephaniejoyocum.com/>:
 - Strong Public Education, Safe Connected Communities, Women's Rights/Reproductive Freedom, Economic Prosperity for All, Protecting Our Most Vulnerable, Representation- You should know your Representative and be able to access them!
- **Chris Jeter (R, incumbent)- District 88**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
 - You can view websites for this candidate in the "Snapshot" section of the Guide.

Q & A



CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Circuit Court Judge District 3 Candidate Responses

- **Andrew Hopper (R, incumbent)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- **Running unopposed**

Q & A



COUNTY COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE RESPONSES

Madison County Commissioner Candidate Responses



District #2

- **Ollie Dixon (D): View responses to Primary Voter Guide questions at this link: <https://communitylensanderson.org/voter-guides>**
 - **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - I bring strong leadership and negotiation skills from my tenure as both President and Vice President of UAW Local 663. I have 33 years of city government experience with a proven track record of making sound business and financial decisions that improve the quality of life for citizens of Anderson/Madison County. I also have a proven track record of working with and for the citizens of Anderson/Madison. Additionally, I am an electrician by trade and a local business owner for over 20 years.
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - My message is plain and simple - I want to bring 'good government' to Madison County. Good government means being accountable to the people and not to special interests groups or other elected officials. Good government also means developing and adopting County laws that bring about good public health, roads, zoning and land use, parks, fiscal responsibility, etc. to enhance the quality of life for all.
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - If I am elected to County Commissioner, I want voters to remember that I did what I said I was going to do, and that is to provide Good Accountable Government. Noting, I have a proven track record of keeping my word.
- **Rick Gardner (R)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond. However, he did respond to the Primary Vote Guide Questions. His responses are below:
 - **Q1: What inspired you to run for this position? (Question from a local 5th Grade class)**
 - I have served the county in two positions and I believe my skills in those two positions would benefit the county greatly is my reason for running.
 - **Q2: What are the primary challenges you see in this county and how might you use your role to address them?**
 - The immediate challenge for the county is the building of a new jail which the new price tag has just topped \$100 million including capitalize interest, and

Q & A



COUNTY COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Madison County Commissioner Candidate Responses Continued

District #2

- **Rick Gardner (R)**

- would like to help see that project through since I've been involved on the financial side for the last couple years.
- Development in the county, especially in the I 69 corridor is an issue my financial experience, past business experience, and construction experience would be helpful with both of these issues.
- **Q3: What strengths and experience could you bring to this role?**
 - As mentioned above, my financial background as county auditor and my involvement in projects in the county, along with my past business experience of many years will be beneficial to the position of county commissioner.
- **Q4: How will you ask for input from citizens while making decisions? How do you plan to work with other people and groups if elected?**
 - There are many statutory boards throughout the county to address different issues, and many of them require public input in a public hearing environment. Where those do not exist, setting up additional times to get additional input especially when it comes to controversial issues would be beneficial.
- **Q5: How would you involve youth in civic engagement opportunities that promote service and leadership?**
 - The county currently has an internship program with the highway department, an expansion of that would be beneficial in other areas of the county and I would support that.

- **Marquest Higgins (L)- View responses to Primary Voter Guide questions at this link: <https://communitylensanderson.org/voter-guides>**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - As an accomplished Operations Director, I've spent my career breaking down barriers and delivering real results. I'm not here to uphold outdated practices or get stuck in the bureaucratic mud. My track record shows that I can bring about real change—whether it's improving efficiency, cutting unnecessary spending, or fostering relationships that lead to better outcomes. I know what it takes to transform ideas into successful outcomes. From managing multi-million-dollar projects to solving complex problems, I've led teams, built strong relationships, and driven continuous improvement at every step. Madison County needs fresh leadership that isn't tied to old ways of thinking but instead pushes forward with innovative ideas and solutions. I'm here to do exactly that.

Q & A



COUNTY COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Madison County Commissioner Candidate Responses Continued

District #2 continued

- **Marquest Higgins (L)**
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - **Elect Change:** Madison County has been stuck in a cycle of complacency for too long. We need to shatter the stale, outdated mindsets and power-hungry legacies that cling to the status quo like dead weight, holding our community back. It's time for bold ideas and fresh perspectives that breaks the chains of complacency and finally move Madison County forward. It's time to break free from the old guard and inject fresh, bold ideas into our community to truly move us forward.
 - **Integrity Matters:** No more backroom deals or hidden agendas. I stand for transparency and honesty in every decision, with the community's best interests at the heart of everything I do. You deserve a Commissioner who acts in your best interest, not their own.
 - **Prosperity for All:** When we manage our resources wisely and cut out the waste, everyone benefits. By cutting wasteful spending and ensuring efficient resource allocation, we can build a brighter, more prosperous future for every resident of Madison County—without increasing the tax burden on hardworking families or our next generation of taxpayers. My goal is to ensure that every resident of Madison County can share in the prosperity we create together.
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - I want voters to remember me as the person who didn't just promise change but delivered it. Someone who dismantled outdated systems and fought to ensure that Madison County's future wasn't weighed down by the past. I'll be known for bringing real fiscal responsibility, fairness, and a commitment to our community's growth. Most of all, I want to be remembered as the Commissioner who listened, took action, and left Madison County better than I found it.

Q & A



COUNTY COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Madison County Commissioner Candidate Responses Continued

District #3

- **John M. Richwine (R)**

- This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond. However, he did respond to the Primary Vote Guide Questions. His responses are below.
- **Q1: What inspired you to run for this position? (Question from a local 5th Grade class)**
 - I have always had a calling to serve my community and have done so in some capacity most of my life. Making a difference in the community is valued in my life.
- **Q2: What are the primary challenges you see in this county and how might you use your role to address them?**
 - Managing our rapid growth in the Southern part of the County, by working with the abutting Cities and towns. Providing rules and regulations that inspire growth that we can be proud of and comes at a pace we can manage. Continuing to find new ways to improve our County infrastructure and managing the many projects that we have undertaken to ensure success.
- **Q3: What strengths and experience could you bring to this role?**
 - My leadership experience has provided me with the knowledge to make good decisions and the ability to work with other departments across the County.
- **Q4: How will you ask for input from citizens while making decisions? How do you plan to work with other people and groups if elected?**
 - With studies that we are currently undertaking, we have been able to gain input at festivals, fairs and other events across the County. We have had success with online questionnaires.
- **Q5: How would you involve youth in civic engagement opportunities that promote service and leadership?**
 - Currently, we have implemented programs at the Highway Department that provide CDL education and employment opportunities for young people. We have also partnered with the Crossing school, allowing students to learn various skills and prepare themselves for the future. This type of programming has been very successful!

- **No Democratic candidate filed for this position**

Q & A



COUNTY COUNCIL CANDIDATE RESPONSES

Madison County Council Candidate Responses



County Council At Large

Note: You will vote for 3 candidates for this position at the polls

- **Rebecca Crumes (D): View responses to Primary Voter Guide questions at this link: <https://communitylensanderson.org/voter-guides>**
 - **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - A. Elected 8 years on Anderson City Council, served 3 years as Council President
 - B. I am a Certified Municipal Official/AIM Municipal Management Institute
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - A. I care about encouraging Citizens to engage in the processes which governs our everyday lives
 - B. I believe in checks and balances in our government systems
 - C. Transparency is very important
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - A. I would want voters to remember me as someone who truly cared and worked for the greater good of our communities regardless of their politics
- **Stephen Holtzleiter (D): View responses to Primary Voter Guide questions at this link: <https://communitylensanderson.org/voter-guides>**
 - **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - I was born in Madison County and raised on a farm, my parents were Kenneth and Catherine Holtzleiter. After several years working for GM, I entered the field of law enforcement serving a total of 31 years with the Madison County Sheriff's Department. I attended the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy graduating 2nd. During this time I took classes at Vincennes University and Anderson University. I ultimately earned a B.S. degree in Organizational Leadership (Cum Laude). I enlisted in the U.S. Army National Guard in 1971 and retired as a Master Sergeant after over 34 years. I work at the Anderson University Police Department as the Sergeant. I also work security at Community Hospital part-time since 1975. I served on the Union Township Board from 2007-2015.
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - To bring an element of civility between the members of the council and other county offices. I know the challenges of building a new jail and of the central dispatch center. To enhance the county parks.

Q & A

COUNTY COUNCIL CANDIDATE RESPONSES

Madison County Council Candidate Responses Continued



County Council At Large Continued

Note: You will vote for 3 candidates for this position at the polls

- **Stephen Holtzleiter (D)**
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - That I was willing to work with all of the stakeholders involved in bettering the future of Madison County.
- **Fred Reese Jr. (D)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and requested people be directed to the Primary Voter Guide for responses to questions during the primary. His responses are below:
 - **Q1: What inspired you to run for this position? (Question from a local 5th Grade class)**
 - I have worked over 10 years for the City of Anderson and Madison County. I have the knowledge and experience to serve. The public is saying they have no voice, we are paying higher taxes, and there is no accountability. This gives me the inspiration to work and fight for these basic rights and much more.
 - **Q2: What are the primary challenges you see in this county and how might you use your role to address them?**
 - Madison County ranks among the highest in the state of Indiana in drug abuse. The death rate is rising from drug use. Madison County has only (2) Drug Task Force officers. I want to take a portion of the Public Safety Tax to increase officers and fund the department the technology and resources.
 - **Q3: What strengths and experience could you bring to this role?**
 - I am Honest, Committed, Motivated, Experienced, Balanced, and Electable. I have served on several community boards and committees. For eight years, I served on the Madison County Council; as a member, as Vice President, and as President. I have been employed with the city of Anderson for over 10 years as a department head for The Parks Department and City Hall. I've submitted several budgets throughout the years never to spending over my budget.
 - **Q4: How will you ask for input from citizens while making decisions? How do you plan to work with other people and groups if elected?**
 - I will use social media sites to show the council meetings. I will keep all lines of communication available to my constituents by phone, email, and social

Q & A



COUNTY COUNCIL CANDIDATE RESPONSES

Madison County Council Candidate Responses Continued



County Council At Large Continued

Note: You will vote for 3 candidates for this position at the polls

- **Fred Reese Jr. (D)**
 - **Q4: How will you ask for input from citizens while making decisions? How do you plan to work with other people and groups if elected?**
 - media. Recently, I've participated in several Town Hall Meetings. This has given me an opportunity to hear from citizens throughout Madison County. I will continue to participate in similar settings that allows citizens a voice.
 - **Q5: How would you involve youth in civic engagement opportunities that promote service and leadership?**
 - I would invite youth to speak and participate in our council meetings. I will set up a "Youth" Town Hall meeting to give our youth a forum to share their concerns and ideas to our community leaders. I will use social media to give youth a voice directly to the council.
- **Jonathan Culp (R)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- **Kristi Grabowski (R)**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.
- **Scott Green (R): View responses to Primary Voter Guide questions at this link: <https://communitylensanderson.org/voter-guides>**
 - **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - I bring experience in public service as a school board member, managing large budgets in a team concept, working collaboratively to accomplish common goals to improve the effectiveness of the organization. I have lived and worked in Madison County for over 40 years. As my home, I'm committed to see it succeed for the next generation. I have a wisdom that has come from being involved in running a business, overseeing nonprofit work and being involved at many levels in community service.
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - 3 key messages of my campaign:
 - 1) I'm an experienced leader who thoughtfully researches and considers alternatives to solving problems.

Q & A



COUNTY COUNCIL CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Madison County Council Candidate Responses Continued

County Council At Large Continued

Note: You will vote for 3 candidates for this position at the polls

- **Scott Green (R)**

- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**

- 3 key messages of my campaign:

- 2). I'm a collaborator - I enjoy working together with others to come to solutions that benefit all parties.
 - 3). I'm not afraid to make difficult decisions that represent the best for the community's future.

- **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**

- He did his research, he listened to community members and other council members well, he made decisions based on best practices.

- **Brandon Collins (L)**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**

- My deep roots in this county, having been raised in various parts and lived here my entire life, give me a unique understanding of the challenges and opportunities we face as a community. As a Libertarian, I am committed to promoting government transparency and accountability, ensuring that residents have a clear view of how their tax dollars are being spent. My experience and values drive me to advocate for reducing the tax burden, particularly property taxes, so that families can keep more of their hard-earned money. I believe that with a leaner, more efficient government, we can empower individuals and businesses to thrive, without unnecessary interference or financial strain.

- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**

- **1. Government Transparency:** I am committed to ensuring that our local government operates with complete transparency. Citizens deserve to know how decisions are made and how their tax dollars are spent. My campaign is focused on opening the doors of government to the public, making information easily accessible and ensuring that the voices of all residents are heard.
 - **2. Accountability:** I will hold our elected officials and government employees accountable for their actions. It's time to put an end to the culture of passing

Q & A



COUNTY COUNCIL CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Madison County Council Candidate Responses Continued

County Council At Large Continued

Note: You will vote for 3 candidates for this position at the polls

- **Brandon Collins (L) answers continued**
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - the buck. By fostering a culture of responsibility, we can create a government that truly serves the people, not special interests or political insiders.
 - **3. Eliminating Corruption and Nepotism:** Corruption and nepotism have no place in our county government. My campaign is dedicated to rooting out these unethical practices, ensuring that positions and contracts are awarded based on merit and integrity, not personal connections or political favors. I will work tirelessly to restore trust in our local institutions.
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - If elected, I would want voters to remember that they had an advocate in their government fighting for the common man - not special interests or personal gain. I hope to be remembered as one who represented the people's best interest.

Q & A



ACS CANDIDATE RESPONSES



Anderson Community School (ACS) Board Candidate Responses

Note:

- You will vote for 1 candidate per district being represented even if you do not live in that district. Not all districts are up for election this year.
- Candidates do not select a party when running for school board.

Central District 1 Candidates

• Ted Bitner

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - My strengths and experience for school board membership include 50 years of experience in education in some form. From high school teacher to college professor, I have always been involved in educating our next generation. I am currently Senior Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience at DePauw University.
- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - My key messages for my campaign to become a member of the Anderson School Board are:
 - (1) School safety--keeping our students, staff and faculty in a safe educational environment.
 - (2) Improving reading and math skills while increasing our overall ILEARN test scores.
 - (3) Improving student attendance at every level in our system; additionally, determining why students are leaving the Anderson system, repairing that problem and keeping students here in the Anderson system.
- **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - Candidate did not provide a response to this question.

• Rodney Chamberlain

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - I am a lifelong resident and Servant of the Anderson Community. A product of Anderson Community Schools and a graduate of Anderson University (1986). I have served on the City Council for 12 years and ran for Mayor office twice. My wife Cynthia of 33 years and two children are also products of ACS. I work at the Excel Center for 3 years as a Life Coach or School Counselor for adult education. I presently serve on Lampco Federal Credit Union Board of Directors as VP. Also serve as a Trustee of my Church.

Q & A



ACS CANDIDATE RESPONSES



ACS Board Candidate Responses Continued

Central District 1 Candidates Continued

- **Rodney Chamberlain responses continued**

- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - * Concerns about the Direction of our School System, Trust, Honesty, Accountability
 - * Service to our students and faculty along with their families
 - * Allowing our teachers to teach and providing them with materials and support that they need to be successful.
- **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - I would like voters to know that it's about our Kids / Students first. That we support our Teachers and we will do our best to ensure that they have the resources to do their job.

- **Peter Lyon**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - In December of 2023 I was appointed by a judge to fill the remaining term (one year) of a vacant school board seat. I am currently the only school board member with children enrolled in ACS (Highland Middle School and Anderson High School) and am also the only candidate in the upcoming election with children enrolled in ACS. I am currently the Controller at Browning Chapman, LLC and received a Bachelors Degree in Business Management from Anderson University as well as a Master of Science in Strategic Management from Indiana University.
- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - 1) Anderson Community Schools can provide more educational opportunities for your student than any surrounding school district.
 - 2) After many years of declining enrollment due to a variety of factors, ACS seems to have stabilized. Over the coming years, a transition from stabilization to growth will need to take place.
 - 3) An emphasis on improving test scores. Attainable goals must be set and we must find ways to help students pass iLearn and iRead tests. While state testing is not a great method of measuring education, it is state mandated and we must work to improve our standing.
- **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - That I was dedicated to helping the community and school system that raised me.

Q & A

ACS CANDIDATE RESPONSES

ACS Board Candidate Responses Continued



East District 2 Candidates

- **Lindsay Brown**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - The major strength I will bring to this office is years of corporate leadership, financial oversight, government regulatory, youth leadership and development. These attributes along with my strong dedication to transparency, accountability and community involvement will help bring the community back into Community Schools.
- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - **Commitment to Student Success and Well-Being:** While emphasizing the importance of prioritizing the academic, social, and emotional well-being of all students. I plan to promote inclusive policies, improve student outcomes, and support programs that cater to diverse learning needs.
 - **Transparency and Community Engagement:** I would like to stress how important and valuable it is for open communication, transparency in decision-making, and active collaboration with parents, teachers, and the community. I will convey a commitment to listening to diverse voices and fostering trust between the board and stakeholders of our community.
 - **Equity and Resources for Every School:** I will advocate for equitable distribution of resources to ensure that every student, regardless of their background or school location, has access to high-quality teachers, technology, facilities, and programs. This includes addressing funding gaps and supporting under-resourced schools, all while promoting the stance of “Letting The Teachers Teach”.
- **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - When elected I would like for the voters of Anderson to remember that I was a fighter for change that not only was spoken about, but also occurred. I also would love for the voters to remember that I heard and acted on their voices.

- **Holly Renz**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - I believe my passion for children through my professional work and service has prepared me for being an ACS board member for the past 8 years, and the past 8 years as an ACS board member has equipped me for my run for a third term.

Q & A



ACS CANDIDATE RESPONSES



ACS Board Candidate Responses Continued

East District 2 Candidates Continued

- **Holly Renz responses continued**

- **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**

- I feel I have been a champion for children for the past 30 years starting with my vocation as a pediatric forensic RN. Through my years of service, I have grown to better understand and thus better serve those children who are most vulnerable, who are victimized and who many times remain voiceless because of their unfortunate plight in life.
- During my nearly eight years as an ACS board member, we successfully passed a \$41 million referendum that has virtually enhanced physical operations for every school in our district. We have seen the exodus of two superintendents during my first term in office, and I believe we now have the right superintendent in place who provides outstanding leadership and offers the needed stability to continue to move ACS forward in the years to come. In 2020 we found ourselves in the midst of a pandemic the likes of which none of us had ever experienced. Nationally 3000 people per day were dying as a result of COVID 19, no viable treatment had been established and the only solution was to provide social distancing and to wear masks. Not until December of 2020 when a vaccine was developed did we begin to see a slight glimmer of hope. Together our board made some hard decisions to close schools and to shift to a virtual style of teaching. Our decision was not wholly popular, but we were able to keep our students, their families and our faculty safe from the ravages of COVID 19. Consequently, like most school corporations we are still seeing the effect of learning loss by our students.
- A major highlight for me has been the development of our five-year strategic plan. A plan that engaged not only ACS administration and staff, but also involved community stakeholders and ACS parents. Currently, the majority of the board embraces the plan, and we are committed to keeping the plan front and center as we move forward.

- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**

- As a board member, school safety is a top priority for me. In an age where school shootings are ever present, I want our students, their families and our faculty to know we are doing everything we can to provide a safe environment. I have personally witnessed active shooter drills in our elementary schools and I was impressed with how everyone from administrators, teaching staff and

Q & A



ACS CANDIDATE RESPONSES



ACS Board Candidate Responses Continued

East District 2 Candidates Continued

- **Holly Renz responses continued**

- **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**

- students participated exceedingly well. I constantly monitor school's locked front entrances and locked classroom doors when I am in a school for a visit. And I am proud to say every elementary school now has at least one school resource officer present near the front entrance when students are in school. While the middle school and high school employs multiple school resource officers at each sight.
 - I believe I bring a sense of **stability** to our present school board. I am fair-minded, I listen, I study, and I am sensitive to the issues. I have no personal agenda. I truly want what is absolutely best to maintain the stability of our district and to grow our district into the future. The role of a school board member is clearly defined by Indiana Code. Currently the majority of the board understands our role. It is not to micromanage the day-to-day operations of our district. It is to provide financial and policy oversight of Anderson Community Schools. We are fortunate to have a highly capable, experienced, and engaged superintendent in place who has developed a genuine rapport with his staff and the Anderson Federation of Teachers. This has allowed us to work with, and not in opposition, as we have previously, with our teachers union to provide the best quality learning environment for our students.
 - I am a **proponent of public education**. I am a product of ACS grades K-12. ACS prepared and inspired me to become a productive community member. My husband, David, is also a product of ACS graduating from AHS, and he was a teacher/swim coach for ACS for 41 years. Our son attend ACS grades K-12 too. I continue to invest and support Anderson Community Schools beyond my work as a board member. This year I served on our AHS 50th Class Reunion Committee. It was a highly successful event. Our class was so impressed with AHS that they made a sizeable donation to AHS through the Anderson Education Foundation.
 - I believe my past nearly 8 years on the school board directly speaks to my total support of public education. Public schools represent a culturally and ethnically rich, diverse group of students. Students who learn from one another and are prepared to enter adulthood with a greater appreciation for one another.

Q & A



ACS CANDIDATE RESPONSES



ACS Board Candidate Responses Continued

East District 2 Candidates Continued

- **Holly Renz responses continued**

- **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**

- Much of what I would hope the public remembers about my time in office revolves around placing the right administrators and educators in the right place to move the district forward. So I must give credit where credit is due and that goes to our amazing administrators and educators. I would like to highlight just a few of ACS's accomplishments as well as where we plan to be in the next few years.
 - In 2017 during my first term on the board, a \$41 million referendum was approved by our local voters. All projects were fully completed in 2023. Every school saw improvements in their facilities from new roofing, to a new cafeteria at 10th Street School, to enhancing security systems and entrances. Some of those projects at AHS included a new Innovation Center, College and Career Room, a state of the art band room, a Black Box Theatre, new tennis courts on the AHS campus as well as new baseball, softball and soccer fields.
 - D26 Career Center is a crown jewel of ACS offering 17 career and technical programs to our AHS students. These programs prepare our students upon graduation to move directly into the workforce with a well-paying job.
 - AHS offers the widest variety of advanced placement/college credit courses in Madison County including (but not limited to) Calculus, Precalculus, Trigonometry, Possibility and Statistics, AP Statistics, Physics dual credit, Chemistry dual credit, Honors Chemistry, Broadcasting, Principles of Engineering, Engineering Design, and Principles of Biomedical Science.
 - ACS offers high ability classes starting at the third-grade level.
 - Southview Preschool offers free preschool with educators who have an early childhood education degree.
 - Last fall the ACS Board unanimously voted to adopt a comprehensive five-year strategic plan. This year's theme based on our strategic plan is "We Are FIRST." ACS, including the board will focus on the positive components of this acronym throughout this school year.
 - Family and Community Connected
 - Innovative Educational Options

Q & A

ACS CANDIDATE RESPONSES



ACS Board Candidate Responses Continued

East District 2 Candidates Continued

- **Holly Renz responses continued**
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - Responsible Governance
 - Student Success
 - Teacher and Staff Supported
 - The recent release of ACS's state ILearn scores for grades 3-8 were a genuine disappointment to all who call ACS their home. However, I am pleased to report that our administrative team has quickly put together a robust strategy that includes acknowledging our barriers, adhering to a Professional Learning Community model (PLC) in all buildings, initiating a partnership through UINdyCELL which will provide more literacy support and coaching for teachers in grades 4-8, resuming an after-school tutoring program and incorporating trauma informed assessments where needed. It is ACS's projected goal to improve ILearn scores by 2-5% on an annual basis.

South District 1 Candidates

- **Martha Green**
 - **What strengths and experiences can you bring to this office?**
 - As a lifelong resident of Anderson, I have dealt with people of all walks of life. I have been a public servant in the retail, library and music sectors. I have always been involved in Community events, charities and personal drives to help less fortunate citizens.
 - **What are the three key messages of your campaign?**
 - I want to find out why students are leaving ACS schools and what would be needed to retain them.
 - I am concerned about safety, security, and addressing bullying.
 - I will listen to and ask citizens for input to bring to the table to improve schools.
 - **If you are elected, what do you want voters to remember about your time in office?**
 - I want to be remembered as a fair, impartial, transparent representative who was willing to step up and participate in helping to make good change, despite difficult challenges and circumstances.

Q & A



ACS CANDIDATE RESPONSES



ACS Board Candidate Responses Continued

South District 1 Candidates Continued

- **Kenneth Hodson**
 - This candidate was contacted with the questions through various modalities and did not respond.



2024 GENERAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE



CLA'S PROCESS CREATING THE GUIDE

**Click to give us
feedback about
this guide**

CLA Voter Guide creators worked diligently to create this Voter Guide to serve voters in Anderson, IN well. In past elections, CLA has focused on local candidates at the city level. However, this election we have branched out beyond Anderson because the local elections this year are county focused and there are many state and federal positions.

- **We recognize we are not perfect** and this guide isn't perfect. If you have reason to believe there is missing, incorrect, or inaccurate information in this guide, **please contact us in any of the following ways:**
 - Maria Alexander: mariaegnatzalexander@gmail.com or Facebook, Maria Egnatz Alexander
 - Annie Wood Bell: awoodbell@heartofindiana.org
 - Community Lens of Anderson: admin@communitylensanderson.org or Facebook

Here are the main steps we took to compile this guide:

- **Utilized trusted resources** to compile information about all of the candidates voters in Anderson, IN and/or Madison County, IN will be voting for. The resources include but aren't limited to the following:
 - Madison County Election Office
 - Websites: indianavoters.in.gov; ballotready.org; ballotpedia.org
 - "Here is Your Indiana Government" publication from the Indiana Bar Foundation and Indiana Chamber of Commerce
 - Local community members
- **Selected candidates from local, state and federal offices to ask questions.**
- **This is an ongoing process.** There are times when candidates are removed from lists because they have pulled out of the race or they don't meet requirements for candidacy. We do our best to keep track of these changes. We recognize mistakes can be made in this process as it is ongoing through election season.
- **There are several checks and balances we use** within CLA and also with the above resources to make this guide as accurate as possible.



USE YOUR VOICE AND VOTE



Thank you for taking the time to read through this guide. Our team hopes you have benefitted from this, learned new things, researched more about your candidates, and feel more confident and ready to vote.

We are grateful for the excellent resource of each candidate running for office, the candidates that thoughtfully responded to our questions, Madison County Election Office, indianavoters.in.gov, ballotready.org, ballotpedia.org, "Here is Your Indiana Government" publication from the Indiana Bar Foundation and Indiana Chamber of Commerce, and community members who helped round out this guide with primary voting information.

This is the 5th edition of this kind completed through the partnership of CLA and Heart of Indiana United Way (HIUW) for voters in Anderson, Indiana.

If you have any feedback about the guide please complete this [Feedback Form](#).

For other comments, concerns, or questions please contact one of our team members.

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- **Annie Wood Bell (Director of Family Success at Heart of Indiana United Way; member of CLA):** awoodbell@heartofindiana.org
- **Community Lens of Anderson:** admin@communitylensanderson.org or [Facebook](#)

Please follow us on Facebook:

- "Community Lens of Anderson": for voting information and ways you can participate in civic engagement.
- "Heart of Indiana United Way": they mobilize communities to close gaps and open opportunities so all can thrive.

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