

Jesse Quinby announces candidacy for State BOE

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Jesse Quinby, former vice president of the Greeley/Evans Board of Education (2003-09), announced his candidacy for the Colorado State Board of Education, 4th Congressional District.

Quinby says he's running for the state board because, "Education must be about our children, and the resources of the state board of education must support our local school boards, and local control should be expanded and enhanced, not undermine."

Quinby is a Colorado native, born and raised on the family ranch/farm near Towner in southeastern Colorado. He and his wife Becky, of 32 years, now reside in Greeley. Becky is a teacher in LaSalle.

Quinby worked for the Weld County Sheriff's Office for 14 years, 12 years as the director of the Weld County Juvenile Detention Center. He subsequently started Weld Adolescent Resources, Inc. (Weldar) in 1993, to provide court mandated services to Weld County delinquent youth.

Weldar now has contracts to provide pre-trial services for youth in 16 counties. Many of these counties are on the eastern plains of Colorado.

Weldar started with two employees and has grown to over 100 employees.

Quinby cites several approaches for the state board of education to be more relevant and responsive:

—Facilitate open and continuous communication between local school districts, the Colorado Department of Education, the Colorado Commission of Higher Education, the State Legislature and the Governor's Office.

—Listen to the stakeholders. Lawmakers and state board members need to know the

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consequences of how new legislation/regulations will impact school districts, especially in the classrooms.

—Return and maintain local control of schools to each district’s elected school board, creating less state regulation and more consultation.

—Empower students to take more responsibility to learn. It’s their education.

—Put the spotlight on civic education (“We the People”). America’s future is with the children and they must know where we came from and what we are about.

During Quinby’s tenure on the Greeley/Evans school board, he was instrumental in developing the initial strategic plan, which included major policy changes and the implementation of new curricula, which dramatically improved the district. In 2008, the board was named the Colorado School Board of the Year by the Colorado School Board Association. Quinby is solutions oriented.

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