Dear AEA Member,

We have very important elections for Alpine School Board, State School board, and a possible district split taking place this November. The school board elections have a direct impact on your career and influence what happens to you every day in the district. The possible split of Orem into a new school district will impact teachers in Orem and those in ASD

## **AEA Board of Directors Recommendations**

In some races we have two candidates recommended due to both candidates fitting the criteria of being Public Education friendly and supportive of teachers in ASD.

Alpine Seat 1 - Julie King (unopposed; Incumbent)

Alpine Seat 2 - Wendy Rencher

Alpine Seat 2 - Joylin Lincoln

\*new seat after redistricting this year

Alpine Seat 4 - Amber Bonner (Incumbent)

Alpine Seat 4 - Sarah Beeson (Incumbent)

\*Due to redistricting for each seat Amber and Sarah are now in the same seat

Alpine Seat 7 - Ada Wilson (Incumbent)

State School Board- Cindy Davis (Incumbent)

Orem Proposition 2 - Oppose

<u>Here is a link</u> to a summary of the questionnaire responses and in-person interviews about all the candidate's stance on different issues. This document also has links to the websites and social media pages we could find for each candidate.

The AEA Board is also recommending **Cindy Davis** for Utah State School Board District 9. Cindy Davis is the incumbent for this race and is already serving on the Utah State Board of Education. She has been an employee of Alpine School District and is currently serving on the ASD DCC. She is a great advocate for public schools, students, and educators.

## **Proposition 2 in Orem city**

The Alpine Education Association Board has voted to unanimously take a position to **OPPOSE** the creation of an Orem City School District by splitting from the Alpine School District. This position of opposition was taken on September 26, 2022. The AEA Board has spent many hours investigating and researching this issue and tried to look for all the possible advantages and disadvantages to a possible district split for this upcoming vote in November. Currently the AEA Board does not feel this proposed Orem split is the best option.

The AEA Board opposition vote is based on several factors which the AEA Board feels would be detrimental to students and educators. The Orem split feasibility study cannot guarantee students and educators will have all of the courses, resources, and services currently provided by Alpine School District. There are also numerous inaccuracies easily found in the Orem feasibility study, which the AEA Board feels invalidate much of the information presented in the study.

The AEA Board also believes a vast majority of its AEA members currently assigned to school locations in Orem do not want a district split. Many AEA members in Orem schools have asked how they can transfer to an ASD school if the split passes in November. There has been no

communication from the Orem City Council to all the teachers located in Orem- asking for their input. The only guarantees Orem teachers will have, is what state law currently mandates-which is a 1-year contract identical to the ASD contract.

There are also concerns from AEA members located across ASD who are concerned about negative impacts on ASD teachers if there is a split. Many of those concerns are not being addressed or discussed in the arguments favoring an Orem split.

For these reasons and many other reasons, the AEA Board encourages its members to vote **NO** on Proposition 2 in Orem city. We also encourage our members to be involved in helping any family, friends, and others to vote against this proposition.

For any members willing to get more involved than just voting, please visit the <u>Stronger Together website</u>. This website has a lot of valuable information on how to get more involved and help keep ASD as it currently is.

## Importance of Voting

We need every ASD employee, their families, their friends, and neighbors to vote for the best candidates for our school district. It is crucial that all of our members turn out and vote for candidates who are Public Education friendly and who are supportive of teachers in ASD. Please encourage everyone you know to vote.

The final election takes place on Tuesday November 8, 2022. The mail-in ballots will begin to be sent out on October 17-21, 2022. All ballots must be postmarked by November 7, 2022, but ballots can be turned in at any ballot drop-off location on November 8. Postage is not necessary, just fill it out and put it in a mailbox.

Here is a link to see which district seat you live in, if you live in ASD boundaries.