

1. With the unprecedented effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on our economy, what recovery strategies do you propose to support business owners in Barry County? How will you implement (fund) your proposed alterations?

- We are currently living through one of the most uncertain moments in our lives. The covid-19 pandemic has made it so small businesses have closed, there is uncertainty when full occupancy will be reached again, and many are struggling with financial instability and savings. When it comes to recovering from such economic pitfall, it is important that local business owners get a say in our strategy. I will use business surveys, anticipating responses from local operations to collect information regarding individual economic impact ideas for services/programs that may work. The main goal is the priority of incremental reopening and finding the funding through grants to provide money for necessary health response strategies and PPE in any public environment.

2. A vision for Michigan's educational system that maximizes resources and satisfies supporters and critics alike continues to elude us. How will your actions help create a mutually acceptable approach that will help local officials support and improve school performance, student success and teacher satisfaction and retention. In your view, what is our most pressing problem and what is your best solution? How has the pandemic changed your view in this area, if at all?

- With my assistance for proper allocation of educational funds, I will be able to help ease the transition into our unpredictable future for this coming school year. Although there has been limited funding in education, there is still a basic framework of necessity in schools. The basis of that is ensuring that educators are prepared for any changes that may ensue this year and are properly equipped to do their job at their fullest potential. If school does take place in person this year, it is important that all students and staff/faculty feel safe and comfortable enough to resume with normal practices while being in a new type of learning environment. We need a sense of comfortability, safety, and readiness in the school setting.

3. Political competition and bickering have soured many on civic engagement and have encouraged the rise of anger and animosity in our civic discourse. What can society, elected officials and each of us do to redirect our efforts to include the probability, comity and decency that we have been taught should accompany legislative and governmental activities?

- It is important, despite the current political climate, to work together as a community to seek the best outcome for all individuals involved. Although there are differences in many political and civic debates, there is still room for us to seek a common ground. Differing ideas and upbringings are what make us unique individuals. With a combined effort, we can look past the animosity and put our minds to work and seek what is best for our community and those within it.

4. What makes you the best candidate for this position?

- I believe what makes me best fit for this position is my ability to seek mutuality and change while pushing forward for a better future. I am someone who is not only a candidate but also a small business owner, an educator, and advocate within the community that I strive to make better. When seeking for a leader in the community, you need to search for someone who is deeply rooted in the idea of bettering the futures of each person within the town. I am a candidate that has experience working with people of all ranges in age, occupation, socioeconomic status, and political influence. It has been, and always will be, my goal to see Barry county continue to achieve great things and with my help, we can do just that.