



KRSL Russell Radio Election 2021 Candidate Questionnaire

1. What is your name and what position are you running for?

My name is Dylan Riedel and I am running for USD 407 Board of Education

2. Talk briefly about your work experience; public service and private sector.

I was born and raised in Russell. I graduated from RHS in 2010 followed by FHSU with a bachelors in Criminal Justice in 2014. I started working at Klema's Apple Market when I was 15 and worked my way up to the position of grocery manager. In 2018, I was hired full time to be the Fire Chief for the City of Russell. Before becoming Fire Chief, I was a volunteer firefighter since 2010 and obtained the title of Lieutenant in 2018. I have helped in numerous community projects such as WOW, a children's worship experience at Trinity United Methodist Church, helped bring and staff the Masonic Haunted House for two years (utilizing a majority of the staff as USD 407 students), and helped coach and ref soccer. I have also coached Tennis of USD 407 and helped with the Community Thanksgiving Dinner.

3. Why are you running for this position?

I am running for school board because I believe the only way we continue to grow Russell is by investing in our youth. Over the years, I have seen many families come and go and I feel like as a district, we can do better. We have some of the best faculty in Western Kansas.

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4. What goals or ideas do you have that you would work toward if elected?

As a school district, we should be applying for any and all grants that are available. I know one of the biggest concerns is our infrastructure, much like any small town in Kansas. If we truly hope to upgrade our facilities, then any and all grants should be considered to help alleviate money for capital improvement. The massive electrical upgrade at the middle school was a good first step, now we need to continue the momentum. Even the smallest grant for technology or even low flow toilets is a penny saved for capital improvement needs in the district.

5. Anything else about yourself you would like to mention?

I believe Russell is home. I chose to go to FHSU so I could stay in my home town. I continue to talk to faculty and students on what they want and what they think the district needs. One thing that has been said by many is that the board needs to be transparent and accountable for every dime they spend. If elected, I hope to do just that. Enough wasteful spending on things that don't directly improve the lives of our faculty and students. My number one goal is to help create a sustainable school district that will be around for generations to come. If I am elected, I will stand behind my words with decisive action. I plan on being completely honest and upfront with the citizens, staff, and students of our community. I firmly believe a person's word is their bond. I hope to have your support in the upcoming election to make our district a better place for faculty, students, and future generations to come.