

To: Mary Elizabeth Stevenson
President, Clay Family Policy Forum

From: The Honorable Janice Kerekes
Clay County School Board, District 1

Date: July 9, 2018

Re: 2018 Candidate Surveys

Dear Ms. Stevenson,

I am deeply concerned that you have once again chosen to send out your surveys with questions and statements that are of no relevance to our school district or the role of a School Board Member. Rather than focus on the issues truly affecting our schools and students, you are attempting to distract the voters away from what really matters. You have been sending out the results of these 'surveys' for years in an attempt to promote your particular interests within all branches of Clay County government.

You and your husband have consistently worked against me yet you are attempting to hold yourself out as if you are a non-biased, neutral organization that does not get involved in individual races. Quite to the contrary, your goal has routinely been to push your personal agenda onto Clay County voters. You put words in candidates' mouths and saturate questions with your own opinions in order to sway the vote and affect the outcome of elections, plain and simple. I once again refuse to play your game.

I find it suspect that you are actively involved in the production of these 'voter guides' given the obvious conflict of interest with you and your husband, Alan, and the St. John's Classical Academy Charter School. As you are well aware, your husband was one of the founding members of this unnecessary and costly school, along with County Commissioner Diane Hutchins, mother of School Board Member Ashley Hutchins Gilhousen. It would only be fair to include that disclaimer. Your group's lack of candor is unfortunate but not surprising.

Should your group decide to hold a forum in which all candidates are given a fair chance to respond to questions and issues, I will gladly do everything within my power to attend.

Sincerely,

Janice Kerekes