Candidate’s name: Nancy Klemp

1. As a State Board of Education member, which of the following organizations would you trust to inform your decision-making in regards to science? Check all that apply.

   a. American Association for the Advancement of Science  __x__
   b. The Kansas Policy Institute  ____
   c. The National Academies of Science  ___x__
   d. The Discovery Institute  ____
   e. The American Institute of Biological Sciences  ____x__
   f. Heartland Institute  ____
   g. The National Science Teachers Association  ____x__
   h. The Institute for Creation Research  ____
   i. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  ____x__
   j. Marshall Institute  ____
   k. Fox News Network  ____
   l. Public Broadcasting  ____

   Other organizations you rely on for accurate information in the area of science: (Please name)
   National Research Council

2. Would you support retaining the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for students in Kansas? Yes, I think the standards are a preparation for students entering the 21st century. The need to compete with students globally is essential if our country is to remain a leader. The standards help to direct our teachers to global issues and teach our students critical thinking. They present to the student and teacher how science is practiced in the real world.

3. What do you see as the role of the State Board and the Kansas State Department of Education in providing the necessary resources for implementing NGSS? KSDE should provide opportunities for administrator and teacher leader training so that these people can go back and provide training to teachers in their districts. The state must assure that the standards are taught from K to 12 in all classrooms. The state must provide detailed guidance for key ideas to be presented in the manner which best suits the teacher and student. There will have to be a testing program presented which addresses the standards and key ideas.

4. What do you believe should be the role of the State Board of Education in writing curricular standards in science? The Board should take part in approving curriculum standards in science but the writing should be done by professionals in the field, credible sources and credible organizations. The Board can formulate that information to meet the needs of the students in Kansas.

5. What is your view on providing an age-appropriate, medically accurate, comprehensive approach to sex education for the students of Kansas? I find this education important because this could be the only truly accurate information these students might ever receive. This is a very sensitive area for all concerned and caution must be paramount by the educator and district when providing information.
6. In your view, who has the primary responsibility for determining the licensing requirements for secondary math, science, technology, and engineering teachers, and why?

Setting of Licensure Requirements should be the responsibility of the Kansas State Board of Education with consultation from Teacher Licensure KSDEStaff (that should include input from teachers in the field and consultation with the teacher educators who are experts with the respective disciplines). The Kansas State Board of Education must rely on seasoned professionals in each of these fields to give them direction in determining licensing requirements. The TLA Teacher Licensure and Accreditation team is responsible for issuing education licenses while the Teachers in Kansas Commission develops standards for application. It is necessary for those involved to be able to determine what the needs will be for the 21st century. The Board must utilize the expert resources available to help them determine standards.

7. What can the State Board do to help recruit and retain highly qualified STEM teachers for Kansas schools? The Kansas State Board of Education needs to work with professional organizations representing STEM (and CTE) teachers to create a comprehensive Integrated Marketing plan to both encourage students to pursue teaching opportunities in STEM and to recruit out of state teachers (who are already) highly qualified into Kansas. I do not believe we can lower our standards for these teachers but a monetary incentive would certainly cause them to look twice before changing professions. Often the academic rigors of getting a STEM education are more time consuming and demanding that other areas and this seems to go unnoticed. Additional scholarships could go to students in their junior and senior years of college who pursue education degrees and commit to a STEM teaching profession. We must value these teachers by providing them with incentives when appropriate.

8. Do you have any other comments about science education you would wish to share with the voters of Kansas? I am a biologist and a science teacher. I believe science teaches the logic of life, why we live, how we live, and what we can do to improve our lives and that of others. A good science education teaches sound reasoning and problem solving skills. The scientific method of problem solving can be applied to all areas of life and a person with a strong science background is an asset to any profession due to their skills in logic. Every area of our education process develops the students to become a well-rounded person and thus science is just one part of the total education package but it is essential.