Questionnaire

1. On what issues affecting Kansans do you feel you could benefit from scientific information to inform your decision-making?

I could benefit from the use of scientific information regarding almost every issue that the legislature has to deal with but public health policy, energy policy, and environmental policy stand out as areas where a scientific perspective is critical.

2. What sources would you trust to inform your decision-making in regards to science and public health?

I would trust our state public health officials and subject-matter expert at our state universities.

3. Do you support mandated mask wearing during covid-19 outbreaks? How would you communicate to the public about the science behind wearing masks?

Yes. Not being a subject matter expert myself, I would pass on information released by KDHE and other public health authorities.

4. How do you view the role of elected bodies in determining policies and procedures such as the licensing of secondary science teachers and curricular standards in science?

I don’t think that the legislature has a role in setting curricular standards, but through its budgeting process and oversight functions it can convey to the Board of Education and the Board of Regents the importance of making sure that very school district is able to have qualified and motivated science teachers.

5. What should be done to help recruit and retain highly qualified STEM teachers for Kansas schools?

I support retaining the UKanTeach program at KU and I have been impressed with what I have heard about similar efforts at Fort Hays State.

6. Do you have any other comments on the relationship between science and public policy in Kansas that you wish to share with the voters?

Public policy should be guided by objective data, not preconceived notions, anecdotes, or wishful thinking. Climate change is real.