I believe Roger and other Board members have done a fine job of explaining our role on the board. I will not elaborate. However, when I ran for the Board last year, I answered questions from the League of Women Voters and the GPS Teachers Union that may help you in determining where I stand and if you can support me and my other colleagues on the Board. I'm proud and honored to have served 16 years on the Grandville School Board. We have a great school district with superb Teachers, Staff, and Administrators who are all about the families we serve. Over those years, I think the School Board has made good decisions staying true to what is best for our kids.

Thank you for taking time to write.

Barb Palmer

For Reference:

Roger Bearup, in his reply to my request, stated the board works as a 'group' and individual views don't matter. This is the reference Christy makes to both Kim Klein's and Roger's statement. Read Kim Kleins response if you'd like to know what Barb agrees with.

This was a common answer among those being recalled

We work in a non-partisan environment. We set our individual views aside. We look to experts, we implement best practices, we utilize researched strategies to address community needs.

The question then becomes:

What experts? Who decides what 'community needs' should be addressed, and where are your 'best practices' coming from? "Experts" in CRT, SEL and the 1619 project are finding their way into our schools. Very recently a LinkedIn ad was put out for an SEL advisor for Grandville Schools. Who makes these decisions? The 'community needs' being addressed are being decided by those with hidden agendas. All we're asking for is simple answers to simple questions, so we know where each board member stands.

I pointed out to all board members "We work as a non-partisan group and set individual ideologies aside" is a disingenuous statement. It's also condescending and should give everyone pause. Members that answer this way either have no concept of deductive reasoning (which is troubling) or they think so little of your ability to think logically they feel you'll fall for platitudes. Yes, boards work as a 'group', a group of individuals who all have a vote. If all those individuals have an ideology that conflicts with most Grandville residents, policies will be implemented that do not reflect the views of our community.

I further pointed out, if individual ideologies don't matter in entities that function as a group, then there should never be any questions posed to Supreme Court candidates. It is the exact same principle.

Conclusion:

Barb doesn't want to answer our questions. One can only speculate why.

I suspect its because she knows her views conflict with most Grandville parents. If she felt she would gain widespread support by answering these questions, she would have taken the time to respond.

You as parents of students in Grandville schools DESERVE to know where your board members stand on topics important to you. Please hold them accountable. Even if you don't sign the petition to remove them, email them and ask them where they stand on matters important to you! Do not accept political platitudes. Demand real answers.