

2016 TULSA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY PLATFORM

As adopted by the Delegates to the Tulsa County Convention

Saturday, March 23, 2013

Preamble:

The United States has attained its position as a world leader and champion of freedom by protecting our God-given liberties. Our republic is at a turning point in history with the battle between liberty and tyranny. We pledge to work to protect individual liberty and to decrease government interference in free enterprise and in the daily lives of free people.

Statement of Principles:

“God who gave us life gave us liberty.” - Thomas Jefferson

We believe individual rights of life, liberty and property come from Nature and Nature's God, and governments form, and laws exist, to protect these human rights.

We believe the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America together establish the exclusive and supreme basis of the Rule of Law for the nation and all subsequent legislation and judicial rulings must be subject to these foundational documents, as originally intended.

We believe in equal justice and opportunity for all human life, regardless of age, race, creed, sex, disability or financial status, from conception to natural death.

We believe the strength of our constitutional republic lies with the individual and with the family and that each has value and must be respected.

With liberty comes personal responsibility and individual accountability.

We believe the proper role of any government is to provide only those critical functions that cannot be performed by individuals or private organizations. Society's challenges should be addressed without excessive regulation, restriction or taxation.

Government is but one institution among many that exist to serve the common good. Families, religious communities, businesses, the press, and a host of voluntary organizations have their roles to play in meeting the needs of society. We seek to reform government so that it performs its proper role with excellence and efficiency, while leaving room for the other institutions of society to thrive.

We believe government must practice fiscal responsibility and reduce its tax demands.

We believe America should work to defend and expand peace, freedom, individual liberty and human rights.

We call for maintenance of a strong national defense and protection of our rights as law-abiding individuals to keep and bear arms.

We believe government must not dictate faith to citizens. Neither shall it prevent any individual or organization from the free exercise of their faith.

We believe it is the right and responsibility of parents or legal guardians to direct the upbringing and education of their children, without interference, regulation, or penalty from the government.

We believe that a sound, traditional family unit is essential to the strength, stability, and success of our nation. We will defend the institution of the family against those who seek to use the powers of government to undermine or redefine it.

We pledge our elected Republican Party leadership will not use their positions for personal gain or to advocate for a particular candidate but will always work to keep the official party organization neutral in primaries, promote Republican principles, and be helpful in general elections.

We believe the Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these ideals into positive and successful principles of government.

A. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Domestic Policy

1. We the people of these United States call upon the President of the United States and members of United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate to uphold their sworn constitutional duties outlined in the United States Constitution.
2. We call on Congress and the President to make English the official language of the United States.
3. We encourage continued public and privately funded exploration of space.
4. We resolve that the phrase "In God We Trust" remain on the face of all coins and currency.

5. We oppose the seizure of control of the census process by the Office of the President and demand it remain in the Department of Commerce. The purpose of the census is for counting persons only, as described in the US Constitution.

6. We support the participation of all members of Congress (past, present and future) in the Social Security system with the American people. All funds in the Congressional retirement fund would move into the Social Security System.

7. We support the elimination of Congress's ability to vote themselves pay raises. By statute, any congressional pay raise must be limited to the lower of the CPI or 3% of their individual existing annual salary, once per individual term of office.

8. We support the abolition of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and each Federal Reserve Bank by the Repeal of the Federal Reserve Act and support returning the Establishment of Value and Printing of U.S. Currency to the U.S. Congress.

9. We propose an Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America stating that all candidates for federal office shall reside within the district that they seek to represent.

10. The Republican Party supports term limits.

11. We demand our United States of America Senators and Representatives to actively and openly oppose each unconstitutional action or stated intention to perform an unconstitutional act by the President of the United States of America or executive branch or Judicial Branch.

12. We support the construction of the Keystone pipeline to begin immediately. .

13. We seek to eliminate funding for Planned Parenthood.

14. The Federal debt ceiling shall not be suspended, waived, or increased, except subsequent to a Declaration of War duly declared by Congress, according to the Constitution.

Defense

15. The United States of America must respond to any nation or organized group declaring war on our peaceful citizens by taking that war to them and winning.

16. We support efforts to bring those who commit acts of terror to justice. This would apply to all acts, military or civilian.

17. By definition, no 'National Guard' personnel shall be required to leave the territory of the United States, except in time of a congressional declaration of war.

18. We support a strong national defense and advocate "peace through strength," supported by necessary defense spending. We support the traditional, historical values of our military and affirm that the primary mission of the military is to support and defend the Constitution or the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic, and secure our borders.

19. We support returning to "Don't Ask Don't Tell" for the military of the United States of America.

20. We support improved pay, improved living conditions, increased educational opportunities and timely medical care for service related illnesses for our armed forces and veterans. We propose that Veterans Hospitals abide by the same or better health standards and building codes as public or private hospitals.

21. We oppose the use of U.S. military personnel in any military deployment where they would be under the command of The United Nations.

22. We oppose the implementation of a National ID card. We favor the repeal of the REAL ID Act of 2005 and oppose any subsequent like legislation.

23. We believe foreign terrorists are unlawful combatants and are not entitled to citizen rights under the U.S. Constitution. We believe they should be held in detention facilities such as Guantanamo Bay, not the U.S. Prison Systems, and their cases adjudicated by military tribunals, not by U.S. Criminal Courts.

24. We strongly support completion of a border fence along the entire southern border of the continental United States of America.

Foreign Policy

25. We oppose efforts by our government to pressure Israel or any other nation into negotiating with terrorists, including giving up land.

26. We recognize Israel as our greatest ally in the Middle East in the fight against terrorists, and support the presence of our U.S. ambassador in Jerusalem, the capital city of Israel. We support the right of the nation of Israel to exist and to defend itself as they see fit.

27. Except in cases of national security, we oppose foreign aid while we have a national debt.

28. We support policies that protect US allies and maintain US facilities worldwide.

Immigration

29. We welcome legal immigration and recognize the benefits new, legal immigrants can contribute to America. We oppose illegal immigration and any form of amnesty for illegal aliens. We believe the federal government has an immediate duty to secure our national borders.

30. We support civil and criminal sanctions for employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens.

31. We support a Constitutional amendment that would deny U.S. citizenship to any child born in the United States if neither parent nor legal guardian is a legal citizen. In the interim, we support measures that would deny illegal aliens access to Federal entitlements.

Judicial

32. We demand appointment of only those Supreme Court justices who will apply a strict, Framer's original intent interpretation of the Constitution and who will not look to international Law or other foreign legal concepts to formulate decisions. Judges of the United States or of any State should adjudicate law and not make law.

Rights

33. The second amendment guarantees the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. We support the proposition that all laws currently on the books that infringe upon this right, when the individual has never been convicted of a felony involving a firearm, be repealed.

34. We believe the First Amendment's Establishment Clause was intended to prevent a state-sponsored religion rather than a separation of God from our government. All Americans, whether as private citizens or public officials, are entitled to acknowledge God. This acknowledgement includes the freedom to display religious symbols in public areas.

35. We support complete freedom of individual citizens to fund political campaigns and political organizations. We also demand the full disclosure (by political entities) of the sources of their funding. We oppose campaign finance reform that inhibits free speech.

36. We demand sanctity of life legislation, including the Personhood Amendment.

37. We oppose the implementation of a National ID card. We favor the repeal of the REAL ID Act of 2005 and oppose any subsequent like legislation.

38. We vigorously oppose the so called Fairness Doctrine or any scheme to limit, shape, and moderate or censor free speech in the market place of ideas. The freedom of speech and of the press referred to in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States applies as well to the electronic media, i.e., radio and television. Thus, we vigorously oppose any such restrictions in any and all media, including the Internet.

39. We oppose the creation or expansion of any domestic security force that violates or abridges the rights of Americans as defined by the Bill of Rights.

40. We believe in equal rights and opportunity for all. Therefore, we believe "affirmative action" is harmful.

41. We oppose discrimination and reject preferences, quotas, and set-asides, whether in education or the private sector or government.

42. We oppose special pension and health care benefits not afforded to the general public, for elected officials after leaving office. Thus, we petition Congress and the President to repeal sections 1021 and 1022 of the National Defense Authorization Act passed December 2011 and HR 347 passed March 2012, as they are in direct conflict with the Constitution of the United States of America.

43. We support the repeal of the Patriot Act in its entirety. We hereby express our opposition to any form of law that violates our God-given right to our life, liberty and ability to pursue happiness. We include our right to privacy in that right to liberty and strongly disapprove of any violation of these rights. We affirm our support of the Constitution and the rule of law and the admonition to not give up liberty for security by our founding fathers.

Sovereignty

44. We demand immediate withdrawal of the United States of America from the United Nations and the removal of the United Nations from the United States of America.

45. We vigorously oppose any continental multi-modal transportation infrastructure which does not include full United States of America sovereignty and full security operations at our national borders.

46. We vigorously oppose the formation of a North American Union with Mexico and Canada and any common currency.

47. We reject the United Nations “Agenda 21” program to manage the Earth’s people and resources and oppose the adoption of any UN inspired initiatives into the policies or body of law of the United States of America, including but not limited to:

- a) The Sustainable America policy,
- b) Use of sustainable development guidelines by any governmental planning authority,
- c) Global Poverty Tax,
- d) Cap and Trade Carbon Credit and Sequestration Program,
- e) Conventions on the Rights of the Child, Biodiversity, and Discrimination against Women, f) Law of the Sea Treaty (LOST), and
- g) Sustainable Population and consumption and production reduction initiatives
- h) Designation of land within the U.S.A as a UNESCO World Heritage Center or Man and the Biosphere Reserve.

48. We favor withholding all payments to the UN until all member nations meet their current financial obligations to the U.N. We favor changing the U.N. Charter to make it a recommending body only.

49. We oppose treaties on the International Criminal Court, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Discrimination against Women, Biodiversity and the Law of the Sea.

50. We strongly support completion of a border fence along the entire southern border of the continental United States of America.

Voting

51. We support stricter verification of voter eligibility and stricter penalties for voter fraud. We demand paper ballots and a full chain of custody record.

52. We support the repeal of the “Motor Voter” law.

B. TAXES, BUSINESS & BUDGET

1. We support the repeal of the Sixteenth Amendment (Income Tax Amendment) to the U.S. Constitution and the abolition of the Internal Revenue Service.

2. We support replacing the current income tax with a more equitable form of taxation which does not penalize productivity, such as the “Fair Tax” or a consumption tax”.

3. We support the complete and permanent elimination of the marriage penalty and the estate tax.

4. We support policies which reduce or eliminate the taxation of personal savings.
5. We support making benefits from retirement pensions, and retirement savings tax- free to encourage financial independence and personal responsibility.
6. We support policies which promote efforts for the free enterprise development of energy independence of the United States.
7. We believe the Social Security Trust Fund should not be regarded in any way as a part of the general budget.
8. We support voluntary participation in Social Security.
9. We recommend “zero based budgeting” for all levels of government and we support the passage of the Balanced Budget Amendment.
10. We oppose the use of “eminent domain” authority when the result would be the eventual benefit of private institutions or individuals.
11. We support the promotion of free enterprise with minimal government intervention.
12. We support fair and swift compensation for property owners when governmental regulations limit property use.
13. We support the total deductibility of all non-elective health care costs including health insurance premiums.
14. We support the right of the employer to hire without regard to mandated quotas.
15. We support tort reform and penalties for frivolous lawsuits.
16. We believe that government should not be in the “business” of picking commercial “winners and losers”, and we believe a business is not too big to fail, but should be reorganized or disposed of through bankruptcy proceedings.
17. We believe in limited government monetary and regulatory intervention in free enterprise.
18. Taxes should not be used to redistribute wealth.
19. Management and Labor should be able to negotiate with each other on equal terms. All elections by employees should be conducted by secret ballot. Intimidation of voters in all elections should be illegal and severely punished.

20. We support the repeal of government forced withdrawals of retirement savings through the use of the required minimum distribution rule.

21. We support the ending of tax discrimination against Oklahoma seniors through the use of unequal standard deduction as compared to the Federal standard deduction.

22. We support an audit of the Federal Reserve

23. We do not support the creation of special tax districts that benefit the public at large.

C. PUBLIC INTEGRITY

1. We believe all public officials, civil servants, or appointees should be accountable for their actions, criminal or otherwise.

2. Committees and boards should not be made up of individuals who benefit or give the appearance of benefiting by virtue of their profession.

D. STATE GOVERNMENT

1. We support reductions, when feasible, of both taxes and government spending as a general rule of government.

2. We oppose new taxes and fee increases.

3. We support the repeal of the state tax on business inventory. 4. We support the elimination of estate taxes.

5. We urge the elimination of the Oklahoma State income tax.

6. We support reducing the number of people on welfare and we support reasonable limits on the length of time a person can remain on welfare, with a focus on personal accountability.

7. We propose that all state retirement plans be actuarially funded and publicly disclosed.

8. We urge the Governor and Legislature to make tort reform a top priority.

9. We support the continuation of civil penalties for the filing of frivolous lawsuits.

10. We support a revision of the worker's compensation system to make the system fairer, less litigious and less costly to businesses.

11. We support reasonable environmental regulations, with remediation of any problems utilizing the most reasonable and cost effective approach. We support strict enforcement of the laws protecting the Oklahoma watershed.

12. We support stricter law enforcement and punishment for sex offenders, human traffickers, drunk drivers, drivers with no driver's license, and drivers with no car insurance.

13. We support stiff penalties for identity theft and internet crimes.

14. We support external audits and public disclosure of the financial records of public institutions, public trusts, and public authorities.

15. We believe that election dates should be consolidated in order to conserve state money and increase voter participation.

17. We support a 60 percent majority for all general obligation bond issues.

18. We believe that English should be Oklahoma's official language in government and education.

19. We support efforts to eliminate illegal immigration in Oklahoma.

20. We support the repeal of all forms of gambling in the state of Oklahoma, including but not limited to the sale of lottery tickets. We oppose the use of children under the age of 18 in any gambling or lottery advertisement.

21. We oppose any call for a Federal Constitutional Convention and support reclaiming Oklahoma's sovereignty under the 10th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

22. We support a moratorium on creation of additional turnpikes in Oklahoma until existing turnpikes in Oklahoma have generated enough toll revenue to repay their original construction costs, are conveyed to state ownership and converted to toll-free roads.

23. Laws prohibiting amnesty, welfare, social security numbers, driver's licenses, and medical care for non-life threatening illnesses for illegal aliens should be adopted and enforced.

24. We oppose any implementation, funding or enacting of Obama Care (Affordable Care Act, Bill 2130) and the removal of the Insurance Commission.

25. We oppose any Non-Partisan Elections.

26. We urge all future legislation establishing any government, bureau, program, or recurring appropriation should contain a “sunset clause”.

27. We urge the Governor and Legislature to review all existing government programs and agencies with the intent of abolishing duplicate programs and agencies.

28. We believe that Oklahoma should become a constitutional carry state where firearms may be carried openly or concealed without a license, with the exception of convicted felons.

29. Let it be resolved that both the State Senate and the Oklahoma House of Representatives pass permanent rule changes to assure that every bill submitted by a Senate or Representative gets a fair hearing and a recorded vote in committee, and every bill that passes through committee gets a fair hearing and a recorded vote on the floor of the body.

30. We support the escrowing of federal tax funds by the State for the purpose of withholding them in the event of an encroachment of Oklahoma’s sovereignty.

31. The State of Oklahoma shall ban all forms of radio frequency identification (RFID), biometrics or any form of electronic data collection to facilitate the tracking of citizens using state issued IDs.

32. The State of Oklahoma shall limit its airspace to only allow the use of drones pursuant to the fourth amendment of the United States Constitution and in a non-lethal manner.

33. We endorse the enforcement of existing law and establishment of new law to outlaw live nude and/or topless entertainment.

34. We support the peaceful expression of first amendment rights of the United States Constitution without threat of legal or financial retribution.

35. We oppose all funding or implementation of the Agenda 21 program or like programs.

36. We oppose the “Agreement among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote” (NPV) and any other schemes that would give voters outside of Oklahoma a vote in the awarding of Oklahoma’s electoral votes.

E. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

1. We support strengthening protections for Real Estate owners against arbitrary zoning changes.
2. We oppose the use of eminent domain by any government entity for private benefit.
3. We believe that public safety – police and fire protection – should be a priority in the city budget, using existing sources of revenue. We oppose a special tax increase to fund public safety.
4. We oppose any tax increase without demonstrated public need. We believe County government should fund its function through property tax, leaving sales tax for municipal functions.
5. We oppose any public-private partnerships.
6. We oppose the practice of “land-banking” by any government board within Tulsa County.
7. We support the repeal of Title 11, Section 22-104.1 of the Oklahoma Statutes which enables a municipal corporation to engage in any business it is authorized to license.
8. We oppose any sales tax, either municipal or county, levied for river development.
9. We do not support city non-partisan elections or the current movement to change the Tulsa City Charter to allow such.
10. We oppose all efforts to add a Charter Amendment which would add at-large Councilors, elected city wide, to the Tulsa City Council.
11. We support the Tulsa City Council having its own attorney, answerable only to the City Council and independent of any other branch of city government.
12. We oppose the use of municipal tax dollars and Tulsa County tax dollars to fund any chamber of commerce.
13. We believe that the City of Tulsa does not belong in the real estate business competing against private investors. We therefore believe that the Tulsa Housing Authority should immediately cease its current practice of tax-subsidized

purchasing, owning and maintaining of residential real estate for the primary purpose of real estate investment.

14. We oppose any attempt to logroll recreational and “economic development” projects with public safety transportation projects in sales tax and bond issue elections.

15. We oppose the use of sales tax and use tax revenue bonds for advance funding for local capital improvements. City and county capital improvements should be built on a pay-as-you- basis.

F. FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS

1. We support the definition of marriage as the legal union between one man and one woman only and therefore, we support the Traditional Marriage Amendment to the US Constitution establishing this definition.

2. We support legal protection for the lives of unborn children and oppose taxpayer funding that supports abortion [both in the United States and Internationally].

3. We support the sanctity of all human life beginning at conception and ending at natural death. We believe abortion should not be a solution to an unwanted pregnancy and should be used only to protect against imminent threat to the life of the mother. We support alternatives to abortion that respect life including adoption. We support the protection of those who cannot defend themselves, including the unborn, the disabled, and the elderly.

4. We support the rights and accompanying responsibility of parents and legal guardians with regard to care, protection and rearing of their children and wards.

Parents’ rights respecting their children are superior to those of any other party, unless it is adjudicated that those parents are [strike-materially] unfit. We support strict adherence to the due process of law in cases of alleged abuse.

5. We strongly oppose every form of abuse and neglect. When government becomes involved in an individual’s care, safety and welfare, there must be strict accountability. Diligent oversight of care facilities is crucial to protecting children, the elderly and the handicapped.

6. For the protection of children and the good of families and individuals, we request that the current laws prohibiting profanity, obscenity, and pornography be strictly enforced.

7. We support an individual's freedom of conscience and his or her free exercise of religion. Therefore, we oppose any mandate, law, or regulation that forces any employer to provide, or any person to purchase, certain types of healthcare benefits that will lead to a termination of life.

G. WELFARE

1. We encourage individuals to look to family and person relationships as well as charitable and faith-based programs to meet their social needs. Government welfare programs should exist solely to provide a safety net for American citizens who are incapable of supporting themselves.

2. All welfare programs should encourage their recipients to accept personal responsibility and work toward self-sufficiency. Those who repeatedly misuse the system or fraudulently misrepresent themselves should forfeit further assistance.

H. PUBLIC HEALTH CARE

1. We oppose federally mandated universal health care. Further, we support the repeal, defunding, or nullification entirely of the Federal Health Care plan known as the Affordable Care Act (Obama Care).

2. We encourage free-market-driven medical research for all health-care related issues through private investments.

3. We support a free-market and individual choice driven approach to health care reform, including Health Savings Accounts and the total deductibility of health care costs to include the extended family.

4. We encourage the Republican Party to develop a policy which would become a part of the party platform to address the public healthcare needs of our nation.

5. We believe public policy should promote abstinence as the only guaranteed means of contraception and protection from sexually-transmitted diseases.

6. We support the religious liberties of private entities and respect their religious freedoms. We therefore oppose any infringement on these religious liberties, including but not limited to the federal mandate requiring employers to provide insurance coverage for contraceptives and abortion inducing drugs.

7. We support freedom of choice regarding the immunization of American citizens.

8. We support the requirement of labeling foods containing genetically engineered ingredients.

I. LAW ENFORCEMENT

1. We oppose the use of subjective determination of mental intent, such as “hate crimes” to increase criminal penalties.
2. We believe sentencing should be uniform, and commensurate with the crime. Victims and their families have the right to attend all hearings pertaining to the crime committed against them. Full monetary restitution should be imposed upon criminals.
3. We support the death penalty and swift execution of criminals who have exhausted the appeals process.
4. We oppose housing criminals from other states in Oklahoma prisons without just compensation.
5. We support stronger enforcement of all criminal laws and advocate harsher penalties for those convicted of human trafficking, sex trafficking, and kidnapping, especially involving children, with penalties to include but not limited to the death penalty.
6. We oppose the infringement of our freedoms by use of surveillance and recording technology.
7. We support passage of a bill to reform Civil Asset Forfeiture laws in order to reduce the abuse of such laws.

J. MEDICAL ETHICS

1. We support individual choices of broad medical options without government intervention. We believe that Medical Science and Health Care should be wholly dedicated to prolonging and improving natural life for all, which includes the right to life for the unborn, the ban of all partial birth abortions and banning all tax dollars funding of abortions.
2. We support stem cell research, with the exception of human embryonic stem cells. We staunchly oppose the use of aborted babies for all medical research or commercial purposes.
3. We oppose cloning of human beings.
4. Hospitals and healthcare professionals should not be forced by the government or their employers to perform life terminating medical procedures.

K. EDUCATION

Philosophy

1. We support parents' or legal guardians' choice of schooling whether public, private, or home-based. Therefore, we support a system of tuition tax credits or vouchers free of any governmental regulation or interference. We support the founding and operation of charter schools. We support the constitutional right in Oklahoma for parents or legal guardians, even without a college degree and/or teacher's certificate to home-school their children.
2. We oppose targeted collection by the government of personal information or data on home- schooled students or their families.
3. We support the repeal of 70 O.S. Section 1210.515, which requires home-schooled student's under eighteen years old to take a portion of the PASS tests in order to apply for a driver's license.
4. We support the principle that home-school students should receive equal opportunity to participate in taxpayer-funded extracurricular activities in their school district's public schools.
5. We believe the Oklahoma State Department of Education should uphold and teach the traditional family unit as the foundation of our social structure.
6. We support parents or legal guardians access to any and all records, curriculum, and testing pertaining to their children.
7. While the objective study of philosophy and religion can be beneficial, public schools should not be endorsing or censoring any specific religion or philosophy. We believe that students and teachers should enjoy the right of free exercise of religion including public prayer.
8. We support the posting of our nation's Organic Documents and the Ten Commandments. We also support the display of our nation's motto, "In God We Trust", in all public schools in recognition of our national religious heritage.
9. We believe the public school system is for the benefit of the United States and those who can prove legal residence.
10. We believe that the scientific evidence supporting Biblical creation should be included in Oklahoma public schools curricula, and if any evolution theory is taught, that both should receive equal funding, class time, and material. Teachers should have the freedom to cover creation science without fear of intimidation, reprimand, or lack of professional respect.

Curriculum

1. Curricula should include the basics: phonics-based reading, grammar, composition, mathematics, government, history, science, spelling, penmanship,

geography and economics. We encourage the teaching of art, music, foreign languages, sports/physical fitness, and the option of using the Bible as history or literature text.

2. Sex education should not be taught in grades lower than sixth grade and must have a parent pre-approval.

3. We believe that schools must teach sexual abstinence as the only safe way to avoid sexually-transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, and pregnancy.

4. We support the right of parents or legal guardians to personally observe all classroom instruction and activities.

5. We support notification of parents or legal guardians of medical treatment sought by students including dispensing of any pharmaceuticals. We oppose mandatory healthcare in public schools and HPV vaccinations for students and any forced mental health medication.

6. We oppose any curriculum that promotes one-world government, humanism, communism, socialism, global citizenship, and any curriculum originating with UNESCO. We affirm that our citizens, of any race, creed, or culture, are fully American. We support teaching our commonalities as U.S. citizens. We support teaching the intent of our founding fathers, the original founding documents, and the difference between a democracy and a republic.

7. We believe students should be given the opportunity to daily recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, including the words "under God", and be taught the traditional history and respect for our flag.

8. We believe in high academic standards. Promotion and graduation should be accomplished through specifically predefined standards. We oppose graduation requirements that require mandatory community service or volunteerism. We support a 70% grade average for participation in extracurricular activities and sports in public school.

9. We oppose education programs the aim of which are social engineering rather than academics or which lower established standards or alter children's values or beliefs. We therefore oppose federally mandated curricula, including: Race to the Top, Core Curriculum State Standards, Goals 2000, No Child Left Behind, affective education, School-to-Work or other SCANS-based programs.

10. We support the singing of traditional songs and teaching of patriotic literature in grades K-12.

11. We support teaching the basic rules of finance, such as economics, saving, investing, borrowing, balancing a checkbook, and living within a budget.

12. Theories involving evolution and global climate change, specifically, should be taught only on the framework of an unproven theory.

13. We oppose participation by Oklahoma in the Common Core State Standards Initiative (of the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices) because it further transfers control of local schools and their curricula from the local school boards to federal and global social reformers. Therefore, we support the repeal of the Oklahoma Core Curriculum Standards.

14. We support more emphasis on the teaching of American History in the public schools. Students need to know our American Heritage.

15. Keep the teaching of the Pledge of Allegiance, the Star Spangled Banner, the Declaration of Independence, and the U.S. Constitution in all public schools.

16. We oppose the federal mandate that social studies curriculum be created or approved by the Center for Civic Education.

Administration and Funding

1. We support mandatory extensive background checks of all prospective school employees as well as identification and registration of all campus visitors.

2. We support the Oklahoma Constitution, which limits compulsory education to the ages of 8 through 16 and we oppose mandatory year-round schooling. We oppose mandatory expansion of public school in the area of preschool.

3. We support the right-to-work laws, which provides all public school administrators, teachers, and staff the choice to refuse to join or financially support any union, political party, or any other organization.

4. To comply with the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, we favor elimination and complete defunding of the Federal Department of Education and the transfer of its functions and funding to the states.

5. We support the right of parents or legal guardians to apply for exemptions for their children from school vaccinations requirements for medical reasons, religious reasons, or other reasons of conscience.

6. We support the provision in the Oklahoma Constitution providing for passage of public school bond issues.

7. We support scheduling all educational elections on the same dates as General Elections.

8. We support legislation to require public schools to disclose the percentage of their staff that are members of the OEA/NEA, and provide a copy of the current NEA platform to parents or legal guardians.
9. We support the granting of authority to the Oklahoma Legislature to review any tests that must be administered by Oklahoma Public Schools as a result of State or Federal mandates.
10. We support local school board appointed textbook committees to select the state/district funded textbooks. We favor elimination of the state textbook committee.
11. We oppose a public school subjecting a student or teacher to surveys or questionnaires intended to evaluate the personal beliefs, values or attitudes of the student, the student's parents or legal guardians or the teacher.
12. We believe a public school should protect the privacy of any personal information or data collected by the school on a student or his family, and we oppose the transfer or sharing of such information with any party outside the administration of the student's local school district. We oppose data mining by a public school through forms, quizzes or journaling of any personal information on a student or his family not absolutely necessary to the education of the student. We oppose collection by the government of personal information or data on homeschooled students or their families.
13. While we support professional development for teachers, we believe classes should not be canceled in order for public school employees to attend political conventions or union meetings.
14. We support the removal of Automatic Teacher Tenure. Teacher retention, raises, and promotions should be based on standards developed by local school boards, with student performance as the key objective.
15. We oppose any denial, disparaging, or suspension of the rights of the people on any public land. This is to include and specify our opposition to the suspension of our 2nd amendment rights in public school zones. We oppose the designation of public schools as "gun-free zones."
16. We oppose changing the testing to demonstrate compliance with federal curricula mandates, from NAEP to PARCC.
17. We support effective educational funding as a top priority. We support the consolidation of small school districts, but do not support the closing of individual schools. All school districts should eliminate unnecessary administrative costs.

18. We support and applaud the teaching of the Judeo-Christian Bible in public schools as history.

Members of the Platform Committee

David Arnett
Michael Bates
Daniel Berg
Jeanette Berg
Aaron Brewer
Rachel Brewer, chair
Mark Burns
Cherie Cook
Roberta Dake
Susan Easter
Ryan Ferguson
Phil Fincannon
Vinita Haley
Phill Heideman
David Oldham
Alex Pickart
Sharon Renfrow-Smith
James Reynolds
Cathy Shubert
Stephen Shubert
Dale Leander
Frank Lowry
Phyllis McLemore
Richard Murray
Jo Senske, Secretary
Earl Wolfe
Michael Ford
Stephen Ford
Gene Kelly
Joanne Tyree
Carrier Torres
Rebecca Marks-Jimerson
Don Bickford
Alan Lee Oatsvall
Monica Deon
Victor McClintic
Leah Phillips
James Reynolds
Olivia Reid

