



2018 Candidate Questionnaire for Developmental Disabilities

Name: Chad Magendanz

District: 5

Position: State Representative, Position 1

1. If you have a personal connection or professional experience with someone who has a developmental disability, how would you describe its impact on you?

My Kiwanis chapter in Issaquah has always had a strong relationship with AtWork! through Chris Brandt, including sponsoring the Aktion Club of Salmon Country. I've worked with Chris and others on several pieces of legislation and received a CEA Champion award in 2016.

2. What are your top three legislative priorities and how would you help people with developmental disabilities in them?

As a lead negotiator for the McCleary school funding remedy, my focus has been on improving educational opportunities and school funding equity. Likely returning as the ranking member on House Education, I'd still be in a position to ensure education access for the DD community. Most importantly for the upcoming year, I'll be focused on backfilling federal shortfalls in special education (IDEA) funding and adjusting the prototypical school model to provide more nurses and counsellors so that we can address growing problems with bullying and teen suicide.

I'm also planning another collaboration with Rep Hanson, chair of House Higher Education, to expand opportunities for internships in high school and college. This could also benefit the DD community by tying in programs like AtWork!.

3. What developmental disability expertise, experience or personal interest will you bring to office?

While my experience is mostly limited to the work I've done through my Kiwanis club, I try to listen to your issues and attend as many events as possible. Nothing works better for me than to have those conversations with folks in the trenches living with these developmental challenges. There is broad support on both sides of the aisle for protecting our most vulnerable.

4. Is there other information you'd like constituents with developmental disabilities and their family and friends to know?

When I see the impact you have in our communities, when volunteering at Concerts on the Green, working on job sites or even as managers of our Liberty varsity football program leading cheers from the sidelines and at 5th Quarter dinners, I take great pride in the roll you all play. Your unbridled enthusiasm is treasured by everyone.