

Candidate Statement for Voters' Pamphlet

Required Information

Candidate Name: **Ben Byers**

Total maximum of 325 hand counted typewritten words/numbers for the combined 'Required' and 'Optional Information', excluding the bold headings already printed on this form. All sections of the 'Required Information' must be completed. If there is not relevant information for a required section, the word "None" should be inserted.

Occupation (present paid or unpaid employment):
IT Professional

Occupational Background (any previous paid or unpaid employment):
Evaluator of secondary and post-secondary education programs

Educational Background (relevant school(s) attended):

Name of School	Educational Study - Major/Minor	Diploma/Degree/Certificate
Evergreen State College	Public Administration	MA

Prior Governmental Experience (elected or appointed):
Corbett SD Budget Committee and Superintendent Screening Committee
Corbett Fire Board Budget Committee

Optional Information

Attach a separate sheet with your 'Optional Information'. **Remember: both your 'Required' and 'Optional Information' count toward the 325 word limit (excluding required information headings).**

Candidate checklist for 'JCVP-01 Joint County Voters' Pamphlet Candidate Statement' information:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Typewritten & Signed JCVP-01 | |
| 'Required Information':
<input type="checkbox"/> Occupation
<input type="checkbox"/> Occupational Background
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational Background
<input type="checkbox"/> Prior Governmental Experience | <input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) 'Optional Information'
<input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Portrait
<input type="checkbox"/> (If applicable) JCVP-02 Endorsement Statement #: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee/Petition Provided
<input type="checkbox"/> Word Count (325 words/numbers MAX) |

Ben Byers

Occupation: IT Professional

Occupational Background: Evaluator of secondary and post-secondary education programs

Educational Background: Evergreen State College, Public Administration, MA

Prior Government Experience: Corbett SD Budget Committee and Superintendent Screening Committee

Corbett Fire Board Budget Committee

Optional Information

I am a life-long public servant who is running for the school board because I believe in the special community we have in Corbett. I have brought a collaborative approach to my committee roles and will continue in this vein to oversee Superintendent Fialkiewicz's running of the district.

I will focus on keeping low classroom sizes and supporting an environment where all of our students feel safe, because I believe that safety is required for learning.

For ten years I was in charge of evaluating programs where students who had previously dropped out took community college courses to earn both high school credit and complete their diploma while starting on a path to further education. In this role, I learned that forming a connection with any caring adult at school was the single biggest indicator of future success. I also learned that career and technical education (CTE) and college bound programs (like AP) are not either/or options but instead work together to support the whole student and their life experience. I believe Corbett schools have the opportunity to provide multiple post-graduation options that support, not exclude, each other.

I will approach my role on the board with an open mind and a willingness to advocate for all of our students and their families. Listening to all opinions, not just the ones I hold personally, and bringing that to the school board is important to me. I truly believe that we are at our best when we are working together to support the whole of our community.

I would be honored to have your vote in this election.