In 2013, I voted against the charter school expansion. I believe that the state should focus on improving our existing public schools rather than creating new charter schools. While charter schools can provide innovative approaches to education, they often do not perform as well as public schools overall. It is important for our state to prioritize funding for our existing schools rather than creating new ones.

During my tenure on the State Board of Education, I have been a strong advocate for increased transparency and accountability in our education system. I believe that it is crucial for the public to have access to information about the decisions being made by the board, and I have consistently supported efforts to improve the transparency of our meetings and processes.

I have also been a strong advocate for teacher innovation and support. I believe that our state should provide more resources and support for our educators, and I have worked to ensure that the board has the tools it needs to effectively support our teachers.

In conclusion, I believe that our state should focus on improving our existing public schools rather than creating new charter schools. I have been a strong advocate for increased transparency and accountability in our education system, and I will continue to work towards ensuring that our state has a strong, effective education system for all of our students.
Keven M. Ellis

Primary roles include approving revisions and streamlining of the TEKS, approving instructional materials, and managing the Permanent School Fund. CURRENT # OF TEKS: I ran my campaign on streamlining the TEKS which was stressed to me by Mary Ann Whiteker in my very first meeting after I decided to run. This was also my campaign platform. Since then I have continued to push for streamlining the TEKS.

ROLE: My primary role would be to make certain that experts in each field are put on the committees that analyze the TEKS and that there is transparency in the process. I would also make certain that the curriculum includes factual information so that when TEKS are revised, they are done so in an accurate and factual manner. I believe in standardized testing that requires schools to focus only or core subjects. A deemphasize of high stakes testing will allow more time for music, art and theatre which is vitally important in providing a student a well-rounded education.

PRIORITIES: I believe in education, then, beyond all other divides of human origin, is a great equalizer of conditions of men.” (Horace Mann). I believe the standardized testing that requires schools to focus only on core subjects is a wonderful step in that direction. A deemphasize of high stakes testing will allow more time for music, art and theatre which is vitally important in providing a student a well-rounded education.

Voted for Royal Public Schools charter application in committee. Voted for Royal Charters in full meeting. Not up to date on current issues.

Voting Record:
Voted to bring Great Hearts Charter Schools out of AZ. Voted against

Barbara Leonard

Neutral

No

Voted for Royal Public Schools charter application in committee. Voted for Royal Charters in full meeting. Not up to date on current issues.

Voting Record:
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**Board of Education**

- The Board of Education (SBOE) is responsible for determining curriculum standards, setting graduation requirements, and ensuring accountability in public schools. It also approves textbooks and other instructional materials.

**SBOE's Role**

- The SBOE's role is to define standards, set graduation requirements, and ensure accountability in public schools. This includes selecting and approving textbooks and other instructional materials.

**2021-2022 Standards (TEKS)**

- The Texas Education Code (section 42.054) mandates that the SBOE adopt standards for the knowledge and skills to be acquired by students in each grade level or course and for each subject area.

**Goals for Education**

- The goal for education is to prepare students for college and career readiness. This includes providing a rigorous educational experience that prepares students for success in the 21st century.

**Assessment and Accountability**

- The SBOE supports a balanced approach to assessment, including both high-stakes and formative assessments. This includes the use of state-mandated tests and locally developed assessments.

**Charter Schools**

- Charter schools are public schools that operate under a unique contract with the state. They are not subject to the same regulations as traditional public schools.

**Fiscal Responsibility**

- The SBOE must ensure that public funds are used responsibly. This includes monitoring the financial health of public schools and ensuring that they are accountable for their spending.

**Teacher Retirement System**

- The SBOE is responsible for overseeing the Teacher Retirement System, which provides retirement benefits to educators in Texas.

**Public Participation**

- The SBOE must ensure that public schools are transparent and responsive to the needs of their communities. This includes providing opportunities for public input on important decisions.

**Innovation and Technology**

- The SBOE must ensure that public schools are technologically advanced and able to meet the needs of the 21st century.

**Federal and State Regulations**

- The SBOE must ensure that public schools are in compliance with federal and state regulations, including those related to special education and civil rights.

**SBOE Members**

- The SBOE is a representative body of elected officials who are responsible for overseeing public education in Texas.