



**The Coconino Coalition for Children and Youth exists to provide leadership in developing community-wide strategies that enhance the well-being of children and youth in Coconino County.**

CCC&Y is non-partisan. Visit [www.coconinokids.org](http://www.coconinokids.org) to view candidate responses.

## CCC&Y 2018 Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name: JL Mealer

Office: Arizona Senate LD7

### 1. What do think the two most pressing issues are for youth and their families?

A- \*APATHY is destroying Arizona. The youth across Arizona (and the USA) must be able to see a future and a path to becoming something positive, rather than what they've learned over the recent past 8 years of slothery and the latest 2 years of turmoil. Families will fall into the upward groove as they see that they, too, have a positive future to look forward to. Arizona youth and their families need to feel they are worthwhile while actually have a 'meaning' and are able to and urged to become successful (*or not*, it's their decision). However, it must be our decision and 'we' must be able to decide whether we want to take that opportunity through [\*ArizonaVested<sup>SM</sup>\*](#) or not).

[\*ArizonaVested<sup>SM</sup>\*](#) means your education, your new business, your career and your investments in our great state really do matter, it's time we live the way we want to live, while allowing Arizona to run Arizona. JL Mealer, Az. Sen. LD7

B- **\*Obesity** which often leads to low self esteem and bullying and then possibly to drugs and alcohol abuse. With food and big box store investments in the multi billion dollar chemically altered food to make people 'addicted to eating' along with GMOs and the claim they do not affect the human genome (then why is GMO capital USA so obese since GMOs became the mainstay?), elected officials sell out in pay-to-play deals and we must reverse that. I would like to see these foods outlawed or strictly labeled in Arizona. (See my plans for Arizona's new Meat & Ag exporting plans)

\*Schools claim that '**bullying** is wrong and will be dealt with', but the school administrations never seem to follow through unless they can claim political correctness when they 'stop bullies'. We must hold the school staff accountable for not officially reporting the true bullying of any student or staff member no matter who creates the turmoil. (Sports star or not). When students are bullied they often fight back the only way they know how and that is with severe violence, this is especially true when that child is charged the same as the bully when staff intervenes. Restricting the student who is bullied from being able to retaliate is a severe form of bullying BY the authority figure. In other words, self defense must be allowed without recourse

when a bully physically harms another person. *I'm talking about a basic school yard fight where the child who is bullied must not be held accountable to the "no fighting rules" when they are merely defending themselves or other students.*

\*The issues I've mentioned usually manifest in mental illness in one way or another and I believe that all schools must have a licensed **mental health** care advisor/doctor. Under [ArizonaVested<sup>SM</sup>](#) we will be able to afford it and so much more.

## 2. What do you believe the role of elected officials is in their communities when it comes to serving and advocating for children and youth?

The role taken today is pretty much no role! However, I would like to see the Arizona State Senators take on a full time role (*with full time pay well over the \$24K they currently receive*) being responsible for visiting their entire Legislative District, schools and all, between sessions, and promote [ArizonaVested<sup>SM</sup>](#) where we will create thousands of new businesses through new small time business investors and thus millions of new Arizona career grade jobs. This will be a direct connect to our youth and out schools. My plans for a newly created *Arizona Schools International S.T.E.A.M.* competition(s) would also be directly connected to State Senators because their LDs are wrapped by local school districts. If all goes well, this *Apathy Epidemic* will end and out children will have more opportunity as they watch they grow up watching the people around them succeed rather than today's inability to find a decent paying career. We can leave the beginner jobs to the youth.

## 3. Within the duties of your elected office, how can you support the children and families of our community? If elected, how will this be expressed in your agenda?

Everything in my agenda is designed around exactly this issue. Through this plan/program [ArizonaVested<sup>SM</sup>](#) I have spent -at least- the past 15 years designing. All the while as I've toured/searched the entire state for optimal locations designed around new business, new industry water-wise viability.

4. How would you, as an elected official, support an equitable school system for ALL students, cradle to career? As 90% of human brain development happens by age 5, please additionally share your thoughts on early childhood education and its role in the educational system.

Children should be able to be children, but as we now know, brain development is critical at a young age. I believe that children should learn more than one language as a child when it's easy to learn... Further, and as mediocre as it may sound, bringing back public TV programs that are not so politically correct they become void of being able to teach young children the virtue of truth and morality. What's wrong with School House Rock blurbs on PBS? Or the old "*Whatcha Gonna Do When Time Runs Out?*" ads that Arizonans grew up watching between cartoons on Wallace and Ladmo? Children need to see these types of ads when they entertain themselves with TV.

Knock out the bad foods and *what must become* the sale of illegally manipulated foods by 'food scientists' and maybe in a few generations the affected human genomes can reprogram (I am not a geneticist, but this makes sense to me) and food science related obesity will end as will the drag on the developing human brain, which I suspect is related in part to food genetic science.

At five years of age or so, a child in Arizona should have access to an early moral education. Many children never learn the moral fabric that binds them to others because they have grown up in an era of mediocrity and submission to an authority with no definition of its own. I am not pushing for a religion based theocracy, but the past 10 years of a morally bankrupt, systemic, soul crushing, repetitiously demeaning, all-encompassing gesture that to be American -*or possibly, merely a successful human being*- is somehow wrong... *Must be reversed*. Our education system, through a gregarious series of events, has descended into a force-fed complacency, largely, with a generation of cognitively, critically and morally lackadaisical Americans. Children need to know at an early age that it is okay to dream and to strive to be better than the children around them and that there will always be winners and losers. Children need to know that true diversity is not color, race or creed, but in the diverse paths they take in order to be able to work, dream and strive to be successful so they can help others do the same. Diversity is not a thing, it is a way in which accomplishments are attained.

I can't help but repeat the need for [ArizonaVested<sup>SM</sup>](#) in LD7 and across all of Arizona, of course. I would not be running for office if I did not have the absolute best plan for ALL Arizonans where I demand that our youth are given options and a desire to strive to be better than what they are now. This goes hand in hand with we adults who either take a job and barely get by or create our own businesses that we've always dreamed of OR by simply playing like a Wall Street tycoon as we create an entirely new tier of an economy to support and for the Arizona Investing class.

5. As childhood abuse, neglect and foster care continue to be major issues in Arizona, what prevention and trauma response strategies do you

support for our child welfare system, the Department of Child Safety and/or our local communities? How would you propose using local, state and federal funds to improve outcomes for youth experiencing foster care or additionally, work toward prevention of child abuse in our communities?

We have a severely broken system where anyone can make a complaint about a family and have it broken up by DCS. It's almost as if orders are taken for certain types of children and then they are pulled from their homes and placed into a prison until a new family is located. This being an assumed fact by many Arizonans, we must first make certain that when a family is broken up by DCS, that the parental figures have an opportunity to a court date within 48 hours of the time the children are removed. At that time, there must be absolute proof and actual witnesses rather than social workers with a clipboard of "complaints" in order to keep that family broken apart.

Once that court date is heard and if a child is in danger, then normalized procedures to protect that child can presume. As far as making certain that the children receive proper care and the allotted funds for such care, I would like to see a mandate that the majority of the monthly stipend to foster parents actually goes to the child in question. Foster parents should have separate stipend to cover their generosity towards the use of their home, time and parental type love given to those children.

While we may never see the end to child or elder abuse, Arizona must make such issues a felony affair and tighten the penalties accordingly. The only prevention would be the penalty for such criminal activity. However, I believe that sane people react better towards others when they feel they are a worthwhile human being themselves and this often relates to businesses, viable jobs and career options. We need to continue the fight against child predators while keeping the male versions of these perverts out of girls restrooms where they may have an easy way to prey on children.

Again, my well designed [ArizonaVested<sup>SM</sup>](#) Program would be, should be, can become that critical option that keeps parental figures in a position where they know that they do matter and that they are raising their children towards a brighter future.

6. Lastly, please feel free to share any further information with voters.

I have spent decades figuring out the best way to do exactly what the CCC&Y Candidate Questionnaire is leaning towards. A better Arizona for everyone and a better place to raise to our children while keeping them safe and hopefully, expecting to be part of a solution and not a problem. I would not be running for office without a clear plan to do just that. This run for office is not a game and it's not political. There is really nothing in my outlook for Arizona that does not cross the political boundaries of either party, regardless of what party I have decided to enter this race under. A basic outline is as follows and as you can see, it is a plan for Arizona and Arizonans of all ages. Someone Has To Work For The People!

- Equal protection under the law 100% across the board. **Bill of Rights 100% protected.** Lower Tax rates.
- The best education system in the world developing an 'Arizona career environment' for our youth.
- Create a new *Arizona Schools International S.T.E.A.M.* competitions.
- Arizona will become the leader in Aerospace/Motorsports.
- Arizona's exclusive high grade, top dollar Arizona Meat and Agriculture Department.
- We raise/grow/label "premium products" for sale throughout the country and world.
- Arizona's perfect environment for water-wise Industrial Hemp, Kenaf and other bio plants will make us the world's largest textile and alternative high grade, high fiber multi-product producer. Along with becoming #1 in Bio-Medical Research/Development/Manufacturing.
- Arizona Entertainment Industry where we give the largest industry in the world a place to call home, produce films, pay great wages and Arizona taxes.
- Wrapped up with JL's [ArizonaVested<sup>SM</sup>](#) Program to direct/couple private business creation/expansion (your business!?) with private funding where businesses develop under a financial parachute creating an entirely new economic tier where small time investors (like you!?) make nice profits per quarterly basis via these investments.

I hope to have your support in this race to simply to the right thing in a non partisan manner. JL Mealer, AZ SENATE LD7