

# OFFICIAL SAMPLE BALLOT FOR FALCON S. D. #49 RECALL ELECTION EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 1996

*Ardis W. Schmitt*  
ARDIS W. SCHMITT  
EL PASO COUNTY  
CLERK & RECORDER

ISSUE 1	
<b>RECALL PETITION COMMITTEE STATEMENT:</b>	
<p>I/we, the undersigned also demand the election of an immediate replacement. To this end, I/we certify that I/we are registered to vote in School District #49. I/we believe that Larry Hanes should be recalled because: Larry Hanes participated in secret meetings, in violation of the law, designed to keep the public from participating in the decision-making process. Larry Hanes violated his fiduciary and ethical responsibilities, under the law, by conspiring to unjustly, and for personal reasons, eliminate the Superintendent, (Dr. Donna Nicholson) thereby wasting thousands of school dollars. Larry Hanes violated the law by not ensuring accurate records were kept and made reasonably available to the public. There are no records for secret meetings so we are unable to verify his decision. Larry Hanes conspired to block a full and unbiased investigation that could have resolved the charges of sexual harassment against a fellow board member. Rather than explain his actions, Larry Hanes has helped spend thousands of dollars on legal and other fees. If Larry Hanes cared about education, public funds would have been used for needed school supplies instead of for defending his outrageous actions.</p>	
<b>LARRY HANES STATEMENT:</b>	
<p>I am Larry Hanes and have lived in District #49 for 20 years, five of those years I have spent on the Board of Education. I have been involved in student and school programs in the district and in the business community. As a charter member of the Advisory Council Concerning Special Students, I arranged for special needs students to work in the Utility's Electric Department facilities so they could learn about various careers and get paid while they are learning. I have been an active PTO member for 18 years and have given electric safety demonstrations for many of your sons and daughters.</p> <p>Anyone who knows me, knows I am a man of my word. I know the charges on the petitions simply aren't true. I have been accused of not doing much at meetings. I admit, I am not frequently vocal at meetings because I believe that when you are talking, you cannot truly listen. I listen to you, as your representative and I listen to other points of view before I make up my own mind. I listened to legal counsel when they told us that all of our meetings are legal and appropriate. I listened to you when you wanted to keep class sizes low and raise test scores. I listened when you asked for greater fiscal accountability. All of these things have occurred since I have been on the Board.</p> <p>I have always been open and honest with information. Sometimes legal constraints have restricted the public from knowing all the details. I have to make tough decisions when necessary and stand by decisions. Lower class sizes, higher test scores, better facilities and fiscal accountability--these are the kinds of results you can expect from me if you keep me on the Board.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>	

Question: 1A	
Shall Larry Hanes be recalled from the office of Director of the Board of Education of Falcon School District #49?	
← 23 YES	
← 24 NO	
YOU MUST VOTE YES OR NO ON THE RECALL QUESTION TO VOTE ON QUESTION 1B. IF YOU HAVE VOTED EITHER YES OR NO, VOTE FOR ONE OF THE CANDIDATES BELOW.	
Question: 1B	
I cast my vote to elect the following to replace Larry Hanes from his position as director of Falcon School District #49 board of Education if the highest number of votes cast for Question 1A are yes:	
← 33	Alan Cisneros
← 34	Becky Robinson
DIRECTOR (VOTE FOR ONE)	

ISSUE 2	
<b>RECALL PETITION COMMITTEE STATEMENT:</b>	
<p>I/we, the undersigned also demand the election of an immediate replacement. To this end, I/we certify that I/we are registered to vote in School district #49. I/we believe that Barbara Smith should be recalled because: Barbara Smith participated in secret meetings, in violation of the law, designed to keep the public from participating in the decision-making process. Barbara Smith violated her fiduciary and ethical responsibilities, under the law, by conspiring to unjustly, and for personal reasons, eliminate the Superintendent, (Dr. Donna Nicholson) thereby wasting thousands of school dollars. Barbara Smith violated the law by not ensuring accurate records were kept and made reasonably available to the public. There are no records for secret meetings so we are unable to verify her decision. Barbara Smith conspired to block a full and unbiased investigation that could have resolved the charges of sexual harassment against a fellow board member. Rather than explain her actions, Barbara Smith has helped spend thousands of dollars on legal and other fees. If Barbara Smith cared about education, public funds would have been used for needed school supplies instead of for defending her outrageous actions.</p>	
<b>BARBARA SMITH STATEMENT:</b>	
<p>I, Barbara Smith, have lived in the District for 28 years and served on the School Board for 15 years. I believe I should be allowed to complete the term for which I was elected in order to continue with the progress we are making to improve the quality of education for all of our children. Since I have been on the Board, our district has worked to develop and enforce policies that provide a safer and more productive educational environment for our children using our tax dollars in the most effective way possible. I have endeavored to make sure that the policies we have put in place are the most efficient and most accountable to the taxpayers. The financial position of this school district has improved because of the efforts I have made at the State level to change the School Finance Act to provide equity for students in all school districts. I believe in compromise, teamwork, commonsense, and living within our means. I take my responsibilities very seriously, including the Board's specific duty to hire, evaluate, and if necessary, terminate the superintendent. I have the ability to make tough decisions and live by those decisions. My years of unpaid service to our children and their futures should demonstrate my commitment to this district and my dedication to the position to which you elected me.</p>	

Question: 2A	
Shall Barbara Smith be recalled from the office of Director of the Board of Education of the Falcon School District #49?	
← 41 YES	
← 42 NO	
YOU MUST VOTE YES OR NO ON THE RECALL QUESTION TO VOTE ON QUESTION 2B. IF YOU HAVE VOTED EITHER YES OR NO, VOTE FOR ONE OF THE CANDIDATES BELOW.	
Question: 2B	
I cast my vote to elect the following to replace Barbara Smith from her position as Director of Falcon School District #49 Board of Education if the highest number of votes cast for Question 2A is yes:	
← 52	Robert W. Baker
DIRECTOR (VOTE FOR ONE)	

ISSUE 3	
<b>RECALL PETITION COMMITTEE STATEMENT:</b>	
<p>I/we, the undersigned also demand the election of and immediate replacement. To this end, I/we certify that I/we are registered to vote in School District #49. I/we believe that Scott Donnell should be recalled because: Scott Donnell participated in secret meetings, in violation of the law, designed to keep the public from participating in the decision-making process. Scott Donnell violated his fiduciary and ethical responsibilities, under the law, by conspiring to unjustly, and for personal reasons, eliminate the Superintendent, (Dr. Donna Nicholson) thereby wasting thousands of school dollars. Scott Donnell violated the law by not ensuring accurate records were kept and made reasonably available to the public. There are no records for secret meetings so we are unable to verify his decision. Scott Donnell conspired to block a full and unbiased investigation that could have resolved the charges of sexual harassment against a fellow board member. Rather than explain his actions, Scott Donnell has helped spend thousands of dollars on legal and other fees. If Scott Donnell cared about education, public funds would have been used for needed school supplies instead of for defending his outrageous actions.</p>	
<b>SCOTT P. DONNELL STATEMENT:</b>	
<p>You elected me, Scott P. Donnell, to the Falcon School District Board of Education in May, 1991, and re-elected me in November, 1993. During this time I have been part of a team composed of the Board of Education, administration, staff and patrons working to improve the quality of education for our children. Since I have served on the Board, our district has seen dramatically increased student enrollment resulting in over-crowded school buildings and increased safety concerns. We took action to maintain class sizes at reasonable levels and have consistently sent the message to our students that gangs and violence are not tolerated in Falcon schools. Because of this, our schools are considered safer and provide better learning opportunities than ever before. As a Board member, my conduct and performance have never been criticized or questioned...until now. Those who seek to recall me would have you believe that I am guilty of misconduct. If this were true, than you should recall me, no ifs, ands, or buts about it.</p> <p>They have admitted that the allegations against me are not true and that I have done nothing wrong. They say that they want a "clean sweep" and to replace the present Board with individuals who agree with their way of thinking. So this is what it's all about. I didn't agree with them and they want to replace me with someone who will. My duty is to serve all citizens of our district, and from that I will not waver. Please vote no to recall.</p>	

Question: 3A	
Shall Scott Donnell be recalled from the office of Director of the Board of Education of the Falcon School District #49?	
← 60 YES	
← 61 NO	
YOU MUST VOTE YES OR NO ON THE RECALL QUESTION TO VOTE ON QUESTION 3B. IF YOU HAVE VOTED EITHER YES OR NO, VOTE FOR ONE OF THE CANDIDATES BELOW.	
Question: 3B	
I cast my vote to elect the following to replace Scott Donnell from his position as Director of Falcon School District #49 Board of Education if the highest number of votes cast for Question 3A is yes:	
← 70	Herbert R. Knight
← 71	Bob Milton
← 72	Kathye Jo Wilder
← 73	David A. Dempsey
DIRECTOR (VOTE FOR ONE)	

END OF OFFICIAL BALLOT

FALCON SCHOOL DISTRICT #49 IS COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING EL PASO COUNTY ELECTION  
PRECINCTS: 77, 174, 209, 250, 280, 283, 284, 285, 301, 308, 309, 314, 315, AND PART 325.