

## NORTH CLACKAMAS COUNTY CHAMBER QUESTIONNAIRE – STATE REPRESENTATIVE

The North Clackamas County Chamber of Commerce is made up of more than 600 businesses, representing more than 26,500 employees, located in the Clackamas County and Metro area. We may be considering endorsing in your current race, and need to know more about your beliefs to assist us in making our recommendations. Please complete the following questionnaire and return promptly.

Responses to these questions may be the basis of the topics at the Candidates' Issues Events at which you may be invited to speak. Questions at the issues event may include any of the following.

Responses to this questionnaire will also be posted on the Chamber's website, [www.yourchamber.com](http://www.yourchamber.com).

Please return this by email to [ceo@yourchamber.com](mailto:ceo@yourchamber.com) before Monday, March 1, 2010.

**Please limit your response to each question to no more than 100 words.**

Name **Cheryl Myers**

Office Sought (and District) **Oregon House District 51** Party Affiliation(if applicable) **Democrat**

Phone Number **(503) 683-1775** Fax Number **(866) 624-3431** email **cheryl@cherylmyers.org**

- 1.) What are the major issues facing the office you are seeking and how will you respond to those issues if elected?

**The economy is difficult right now for everyone, and this district is no exception. I will rely on my experiences as a small business owner, as well as my long-standing relationship with the North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce, to provide the necessary understanding of the local and regional economy. One of the most crucial things our government can do right now is to ensure small businesses have the tools they need to stay vigorous and retain their employees; having spent over 5 years as a school board member for North Clackamas School District, I place high value on education as preparation for our future workforce and citizenry.**

- 2.) What should the legislature do in response to the economic downturn to support job development and the greater demands placed on social services?

**Many businesses may require capital infusion to survive the current economic downturn; lending practices should return to a business-friendly atmosphere to allow the market to expand both for currently affected industries and investment in the next generation of business. We need to return to a state that welcomes economic development and places high value on homegrown entities – whether it's streamlining a permitting process or being reasonable when considering laws that could negatively impact current businesses – the legislature must have those voices represented. Simultaneously, the Legislature should reexamine the state budget, eliminating any wasteful spending while ensuring funding for vital services is retained.**

3.) What do you view as the long-term solution to the broken, unbalanced funding system of the state?

**Funding for the Rainy Day Fund should be a top priority in each legislative session. Essential services, such as public schools, public safety and our most vulnerable populations, cannot continually be forced to ride the economic wave of a boom/bust economy.**

4.) Can you give an example of a way in which you have supported a business position in the past?

**As a small business owner, I have hands-on experience riding economic highs and lows for over twenty-two years; there have been countless conversations including roundtable discussions, connections with other business owners and conversations with legislative leaders.**

5.) List briefly the three top reasons voters should elect you to this position.

**As a 22-year small business owner, I have a direct understanding of the fiscal impacts legislative policy changes can have and hands-on experience with what it takes to survive and thrive in changing economic climates.**

**As a long-time community volunteer with over 5 years on the North Clackamas School Board, my in-depth knowledge and passion for public education will enhance policies to create our future workforce. Most business owners want to invest and support their local communities and the future of these communities includes well-educated students and well-run schools. I have been a collaborative, unifying voice on our school board; always pressing for transparency, equity and fiscal responsibility.**

**As the true moderate in this campaign, I possess a unique background with proven results. A lifetime, local resident, I've spent many years investing personal capital in our North Clackamas community. I'm well acquainted with our richly diverse district: urban, suburban and rural communities that each have unique needs. My background and demeanor are the right fit for House District 51.**

6.) List briefly your biographical information limited to age, former/current elected positions, years in State/region/County/district, community involvement.

**Age:** 52

**Elected Positions:** North Clackamas School District,  
School Board Member, 1/2005 to present

Board Liaison/Committees: North Clackamas Education Foundation; Strategic Plan, Diversity Task Force, Finance Committee, Family Health Committee, Budget Committee

**Years in State/region/County/district:** Lifetime metro-area Oregonian, 13 years at current residence in Clackamas County and District 51.

**Community Involvement:** North Clackamas After School Task Force, School Site Council, Advisory Board, Volunteer Coordinator, PTO President, PTA President, soccer club and scout volunteer.