

# Ted Adams is a skunk. A rat.

Ted Adams is one of those people who would say: "Okay, okay, okay. I lied about those other things but I'm telling the truth about this one."

For a candidate who was decisively beaten in the primary, he has risen from that rejection to get front page publicity. No loser since Clifford Irving has tried harder to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear.

As a candidate, he bragged about his tenure as LCSD1 District Superintendent in Cheyenne. He never once suggested that he had been shown the door. That he had been forced out. Taking a page from his hero Jim McBride's playbook, Adams led voters to believe he had left his latest employment of his own volition. Just like McBride. Lying may be in the DNA of those guys. And they want voters to choose them? Not.

Shortly after he was stomped in the primary election - receiving fewer votes than "None of the Above" for an office for which he should have been a contender - Adams later remembered that he had been driven from his job. That he hadn't left on his feet, after all, but on a gurney.

He never once suggested to voters that his was an exit in disgrace. That his former employers, via the Board of Trustees of LCSD1, told him not to let the door hit his rear end on the way out. Never once did he think to inform voters of Wyoming that he had a year remaining on his contract and that he had not resigned, he had been terminated. Nor that he had not been paid for the year left on his contract. Not until after he was rejected by voters. Then he suddenly remembered. Then his memory about a lot of things got clearer. After the primary election, though, not during the primary campaign.

Perhaps the most qualified candidate in the field, Adams was embarrassed by Wyoming's voters. But, he would get even. He doesn't get mad, he tries to get even.

Ted Adams didn't think to tell voters or his friends or even his supporters that he would sue LCSD1 for wrongful termination if he did not win the race for State Superintendent. He jumped into the fray early, then did less to affect the outcome than the other candidates. His was one of the weakest campaigns for statewide office of any candidate in recent history. As a candidate, Ted Adams was a bitter disappointment and the results confirmed that. The least known of the candidates, he printed yard signs the size of a sheet of copy paper with the single name "Ted" on them. Some thought United Airlines was reintroducing their discount airline of that name. Few voters knew who this Ted was. Maybe a new Burger King character? "Herb" worked so well for BK.

His inept campaign for State Superintendent resulted in him garnering less than 11% of the votes cast for four candidates for the office. He *did* actually receive fewer votes than "None of the Above" (under votes). The fellow Republican candidate he has now turned on, a member of his own party who eviscerated him and the other males in the primary, received more than four and a half times the number of votes Adams received.

Cindy Hill received nearly as many votes in the primary election as did all three males combined (47,165 to 48,499). Yet, each of the men showed accomplishments beyond what Cindy has yet accomplished. All three of the men had been school district superintendents. Cindy Hill had not. All three men also, however, left jobs before their contracts had expired. At least two, Adams and McBride, were forced out. Voters knew the credentials of the four candidates and overwhelmingly favored Cindy Hill.

That must have stung. Didn't it, Ted Adams? Not only a less-credentialed opponent beat the snot out of you but one you later claim had not resigned but was not going to have her contract renewed. Forced out. Kind of like you, huh, Ted?

During the recent primary election campaign cycle, Ted Adams never made any allegations about Cindy Hill's circumstances of leaving her assistant principal position in Cheyenne. She said she had resigned. He did not correct her or challenge her claim.

But we found out later that we couldn't have believed him, anyway. Because he never told us he had been forced out of his own job as district superintendent in Cheyenne, either. Had he been successful in the primary, would he still have filed an intent to sue LCSD1? That would have been a helluva vote getter for you, Teddy.

After being thoroughly rejected by Wyoming voters, Adams has allegedly thrown in with Mike Massie and Dave Freudenthal. After filing his notice of intent to sue the LCSD1 board of directors and individual board members, Ted Adams will find it very difficult, if not impossible, to find another job in public education. And, when you quit a job and join in "farewell" parties in your honor and in "recognition" of your tenure, it is going to be hard to convince a court or jury that you were wrongfully terminated.

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Why would an honest guy conceal critical information about himself from the voters? Why not tell them you had been forced from your position in LCSD1? And, not having done that during the campaign, how can he now be believed?

Then, why would a guy withhold information about an opponent when voters had every right to be informed about Cindy Hill's performance as an assistant principal in the same school district Ted Adams had been superintendent? Why did Adams remain silent? Maybe because he isn't telling the truth. The reasons he gave to the Casper Star reporter were that he didn't think Cindy Hill would win the primary and that he couldn't reveal the information until after he had resigned his position with LCSD1. Both of those reasons are bogus.

Was Adams so uninformed during the primary that he didn't know Cindy Hill had led in polling done for that race? And his restriction on keeping personnel records confidential didn't end with his tenure as district superintendent. Even if he were telling the truth about the timing and whether Cindy Hill's contract would have been renewed had she sought renewal, and he may not be, he has no right to disclose personnel matters, period. An underling of his at LCSD1, John Lyttle, confirmed the District's knowledge of that protection in local media this morning. By disclosing *anything* about Cindy Hill's performance as an assistant principal, Ted Adams has violated Wyoming law. Just one more reason he will not find another job UNLESS he sold his soul to Mike Massie in return for a position if he can help Massie get elected. Ted Adams had better hope he wins his grievance against LCSD1. He may have to live off that award for the foreseeable future. Future employment in public education will be problematic.

Voters proved their wisdom when they rejected his candidacy for State Superintendent of Public Instruction. It is hard to imagine but he may not have been an improvement over the incompetent and fellow rejectee, incumbent Jim McBride.

The Casper Star-Tribune loves Ted Adams. They chose him over the other three candidates for the office. But, it turned out that Ted Adams is so like McBride that it is frightening. Both were run out of district superintendent jobs while still under contract. McBride knew better than to sue the Bennett, Colorado school district even though he threatened. Ted Adams will learn the hard way.

It must have been difficult for the editors of the Casper Star-Tribune to watch their endorsed candidate for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ted Adams, implode. He finished a distant fourth of four in the August primary election. So far back he couldn't even see Cindy Hill's apron strings. That Casper local media is now trying to rehabilitate Adams by publishing scurrilous charges based on his illegal sharing of personnel file information that is supposed to be protected. The only way Adams can be accurate about his allegation against Cindy Hill is by violating clear Wyoming law. Where is the CS-T on that? It's okay if it benefits them. A story is a story, huh?

Let's assume for a minute that Cindy Hill may *not* have been rehired as a junior high school principal in LCSD1. That may not be the case but, for demonstration purposes, let's assume that it was. That alone would not mean she would be unemployable or unqualified as a candidate. She could have, almost certainly, found another job in education. McBride did. In my experience, principals and assistant principals, like vice presidents in corporations, tend not to be popular with everyone under them. When they are universally adored, they are probably not doing their jobs. Someone has to be the "heavy" and that falls on that level of management. Superintendents and presidents can then "do lunch" and attend civic meetings - while principals and assistant principals deal with discipline and other issues with teachers, students and parents.

Has Ted Adams made a deal with Massie to be hired at the Department of Education or as a "consultant" at the Department if Massie is elected? Mike has no classroom or public education administration experience. He could use someone like Adams. Do remember, Mike, that skunks don't squirt only once. And rats will turn on you.

Adams shouldn't forget the internet is available even in Nebraska. And Iowa. Utah. Colorado. Even Montana and the Dakotas. In the Computer Age, you can run but you cannot hide. Ted Adams next job could very well be as a consultant to an unaccredited diploma mill. How will he answer the first question at his wrongful termination hearing?

"Were you lying then, Dr. Adams, or are you lying now?"

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