

Rene Potter, candidate for North Summit School Board Seat 4

Rene Potter is a lifelong member of the Chalk Creek community, raised on the family farm his parents and grandparents worked before him. He graduated from North Summit High School, married his wife, and together they raised four children. Today, they are welcoming their ninth grandson into the family — a reminder of why strong schools and a strong community matter.

Rene's career has taken him from operating heavy equipment and jackhammering roads to one of the most demanding and high-stakes professions in the country: air traffic control. He spent 20 years at the Salt Lake Center before being assigned to the FAA Command Center in Virginia, then to Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida, where he worked in CONR with a top-secret clearance, helping protect national security. He returned home in 2017, grateful to bring his experience back to the valley that shaped him.

For more than a decade, Rene served the youth of North Summit as an assistant and head wrestling coach. He helped develop multiple state champions — including his own son, North Summit's first undefeated wrestler — and he remains deeply committed to the growth, confidence, and resilience of the next generation.

Rene also served as Bishop of the Upton Ward. During the record-breaking 2023 snowpack and flood risk, he helped organize neighbors, coordinate sandbagging, and protect homes that would have otherwise been underwater. He believes in community action, shared responsibility, and stepping up when people need help.

Like many in the valley, Rene is concerned about the direction of the current school board — especially the lack of transparency, the dismissal of community input, and the financial burden placed on families, businesses, and senior citizens. When voters rejected the new high school bond, they expected their voices to matter. Instead, the project moved forward without clear answers to the community's questions.

Rene believes North Summit deserves a school board that listens, responds, and works with the community — not around it. He wants to ensure the existing high school is properly evaluated for safety, explore practical and affordable solutions, and bring forward ideas that reflect the creativity and intelligence of the people who live here. He believes in strengthening career and technical education, supporting skilled-trade pathways, and making decisions that keep the community affordable for the families who call this valley home.

Rene is running because he loves this place, he loves its people, and he believes North Summit's future should be shaped by the community — openly, honestly, and together.