Name: Robert A. Montagnese

Institution: Central Ohio Technical College (COTC)

1. No.

- It is important to adhere to the Constitution of the United States and fundamental principles of the 1<sup>st</sup> amendment but to do so in a manner which allows differences of thought with consideration for others' rights.
- 3. Three of the most significant issues affecting higher education in my opinion are as follows:
  - Continuing to strive to make higher education available and affordable for all who wish to pursue.
  - Ensuring graduates from higher education institutions have practical skills that prepare them for immediate employment (i.e., job readiness)
  - Identifying and hiring enough quality instructors to meet the demand for teaching growing student populations.
- 4. Yes, I feel comfortable presenting new solutions at my institution. Considering alternative ideas to the challenges of today is an important method for continuous improvement.
- 5. Several programs have been implemented in the COTC service area to help students manage the financial stresses of higher education. Programs such as a Call to College, Newark Campus Development Fund, and the Knox & Coshocton Promise are all programs implemented in our service area to make education more affordable.
- 6. I feel that faculty, staff, Board members and all associated with the delivery of education at COTC should be held to a high standard and evaluated regularly to ensure that their performance is commensurate with that standard.
- 7. Increasing graduation rates is important for institutions to monitor and strive to improve. At COTC it is one of our strategic goals. Providing a safety net of support which address not only academic needs but other needs such as financial, mental health and welfness, and basic human needs (food insecurity, housing, etc.) are critical.
- 8. At COTC we are addressing the current and future workforce needs in Ohio. Specifically, we provide a significant amount of the local healthcare workforce in Licking County and have quickly developed and implemented programs to address the upcoming needs of Intel.
- 9. As a volunteer Board member, I serve to meet the needs of our community members (the taxpayers) and employers (the taxpayers) so that Licking County can continue to be a great place to live, work, and raise a family!