

Local Board of Education Sample Candidate Questionnaire

CANDIDATE: _____

OFFICE SOUGHT: _____

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER(S): _____

EMAIL: _____

WEBSITE: _____

I confirm that the responses provided here are my official positions in seeking local office and I understand that DE reserves the right to share my responses with members and interested parties.

CANDIDATE SIGNATURE: _____ DATE SUBMITTED: _____

Candidates: To be considered for a recommendation, you must indicate your response to each of the questions. Clarifications, explanations, and other information may be attached, but please be certain to clearly indicate the questions(s) to which you refer. Please return your completed and signed questionnaire to (email) or (physical address) by (deadline here)

Education Funding

Background points:

[list any relevant budget and funding information]

1. Please provide your general and specific thoughts on how the county can address the unmet needs facing our schools. Detail how you would prioritize aid for education in your budget deliberations.
2. There is considerable room for improvement in addressing educator recruitment and retention. Class sizes have increased because of cost-cutting measures and/or due to hiring freezes, layoffs, and retirements. Many support personnel positions have been eliminated. How will you address critical concerns with educator recruitment and retention?

Public Funding for Private Schools

Background points:

[list any relevant information on vouchers]

3. As a Board member, are you in favor of allocating public funding to home and privately schooled students?

_____ Support

_____ Oppose

Additional Comments:

Evaluations

Background points:

[list any relevant information on evaluations and testing]

4. Do you support or oppose local autonomy to develop evaluation systems in compliance with statute and regulation?

_____ Support

_____ Oppose

Additional Comments:

5. Do you support or oppose efforts to overturn school districts mutually agreed upon, statutorily compliant evaluation models in pursuit of one-size-fits-all models developed by federal and state agencies, rather than local education agencies?

_____ Support

_____ Oppose

Additional Comments:

Collective Bargaining

Background points:

[list any relevant information on bargaining]

6. Do you support or oppose public education employees' rights to bargain collectively?

_____ Support

_____ Oppose

Additional Comments:

7. How familiar are you with our [local union] contract?

_____ Familiar

_____ Unfamiliar

Additional Comments:

8. What changes, if any, would you like to see? And how would you honor the negotiated agreement, especially in tight fiscal times?

Continuing Impact of the Pandemic

Background points:

[list any relevant information on the impacts of the pandemic]

9. How will you address increased needs for mental health supports for students and educators in the wake of the pandemic?

10. The pandemic further illuminated the immediate need for reliable, affordable access to technology for all students and educators. How would you propose to eliminate the digital divide?

Racial and Social Justice

Background points:

[list any relevant information on racial and social justice initiatives]

11. Our Local Association supports honesty in education. To encourage critical thinking, we believe educators should have professional autonomy and should be afforded the deference to teach the truth in their classrooms, schools, and districts. Do you support or oppose this position?

_____ Support

_____ Oppose

Additional Comments:

12. How will you support diversity, equity, and inclusion for all students throughout the district? What specific policies do you support whose goals are focused on providing equitable access, opportunities, resources, and supports?

Community Schools

Background points:

[list any relevant information on community schools]

13. Do you support or oppose local efforts to create and support community schools?

_____ Support

_____ Oppose

Additional Comments:

Parental Involvement and Public Support

Background points:

[list any relevant information on parent involvement efforts]

14. As a Board member, what would you do to increase parental involvement and public support for our public schools and educators?

Privatization

Background points:

[list any relevant information on outsourcing]

15. As a Board member, are you in favor of contracting out custodial, cafeteria, and maintenance services rather than have those services provided by Board of Education employees?

_____ Support

_____ Oppose

Additional Comments:

Virtual Learning

Background points:

[list any relevant information on virtual learning]

16. Do you support or oppose the creation of virtual schools that are independent of local school boards?

_____ Support

_____ Oppose

Additional Comments:

17. What allowances or guardrails would you like to see implemented related to virtual learning options?

Essay Question

What are the top three things you would like to accomplish in the next four years if you are elected to the Board?