

# NJPSA Questionnaire for NJ Legislature - 2021 General Election

User: Arbiol, Raya / Email: rayaarbiol@gmail.com

Survey answered on: 9/5/2021 07:42 PM

1. Legislative District #: (answer type: Number)

12

2. Office You Are Seeking:&nbsp; (answer type: Short Text)

General Assembly

3. Party: (answer type: Short Text)

Democrat

4. Campaign Phone Number:&nbsp; (answer type: Short Text)

973-856-2423

5. Campaign Mailing Address:&nbsp; (answer type: Long Text)

4201 Wells Drive, c/o Raya Arbiol for LD-12, Parlin, NJ 08859

6. Staff Contact Name and Phone Number (if preferred): (answer type: Long Text)

7. State investment in a state level school facilities strategic plan to address long-ignored school infrastructure needs across all school districts in need in &nbsp;New Jersey&nbsp; (answer type: Multiple Options With Single Answer)

Support

8. Supporting school employees' (including NJPSA members') rights to collective bargaining (answer type: Multiple Options With Single Answer)

Support

9. An ongoing commitment to the scheduled phase-up of funding of public employee pensions according to the schedule set forth in the law&nbsp; (answer type: Multiple Options With Single Answer)

Support

10. Private school vouchers in any form (tuition tax credits, opportunity scholarships, etc.)&nbsp; (answer type: Multiple Options With Single Answer)

Support

11. No new unfunded state mandates for public schools&nbsp; (answer type: Multiple Options With Single Answer)

Support

12. What health care policy approaches and priorities do you support for our public schools with the goal of maintaining in-person learning? In your mind, since educators are not health professionals, when do you believe a statewide approach is needed and when is a local approach more appropriate in deciding pandemic-related school health policies?&nbsp;&nbsp; (answer type: Long Text)

In our state, I believe that a local approach is more appropriate. As situation changes, our state should continue to closely monitor and make the best possible recommendations. Nevertheless, the

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matter should be decided locally, by the respective school districts.

**13. What issues do you see in this area and how can you assist local districts in addressing school infrastructure needs in both SDA (Schools Development Authority) districts and regular operating districts? &nbsp;&nbsp;  (answer type: Long Text)**

On a federal level, I recognize the lack of direct solutions through bill in addressing this issue. I will advocate a bill in the state legislature to address these issues. We cannot be complacent when it comes to the education of our children. School infrastructure has been neglected for years. It is time to work together and find the optimal way to provide a world-class school infrastructure for American children.

**14. As a legislator, will you support professional educators in their work with their students and avoid the temptation to mandate specific programs for every school district as we work to meet the individual needs of each student, school and district? &nbsp; How will you support the work of educators and principals in your district?&nbsp;&nbsp;  (answer type: Long Text)**

I believe supporting the work of our professional educators is vital in addressing student learning needs. Building on what the teachers, supervisors, counselors, and specialized staffs have done is much better approach than mandating new programs. Whatever has been done and has worked should be standardize for further development.

**15. Do you believe New Jersey students should pass a state graduation test or demonstrate proficiency in math and language arts standards as described above to earn a high school diploma? &nbsp; &nbsp;   (answer type: Long Text)**

In general, I believe that raising the standards are nothing but beneficial for our students. I totally support NJPSA's comprehensive system of assessments. I oppose high-stakes testing requirements.

**16. As a legislator, what will you do to promote education as a positive career path to our youth and what types of initiatives will you consider to enhance the educational career pipeline for the future? &nbsp; How will you promote diversity within our future workforce?&nbsp;   (answer type: Long Text)**

As a start, I believe raising the salary of educators will make the career path more appealing to our youth. It is a noble job but individuals should not make a career choice over doing a heroic act and paying bills. Educators deserve above average salary and comprehensive benefits.

**17. Will you vote for legislation (S-3284 (Greenstein)/ &nbsp; &nbsp; A-5011 (Wimberly) ) that provides the same accidental death benefit to school employees who lost their lives in the service of their school community while performing such essential services? &nbsp;   (answer type: Yes/No)**

Yes

**18. Thinking about the future, what are your goals for our public education system and what actions will you take as a state legislator to support our educators, our students and our schools?&nbsp;   (answer type: Long Text)**

New Jersey is the top state for education. Part of my goals for our public education system is to continue building on this premise. We can always keep things better as we address issues in our educational system. An advisory board consists of educators, students, parents, and school district officials will lead all my education-related policies.