

NJPSA Questionnaire for NJ Legislature - 2021 General Election

User: Dobbins, Stephen / Email: info@flipld30.com

Survey answered on: 9/10/2021 02:56 PM

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

30

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

Assembly

3. Party: (answer type: Short Text)

Democrat

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

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

PO Box 557

Howell, NJ 07731

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

John Hughes-Campaign Manager

609-864-4101

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 New Jersey (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 (answer type: Multiple Options With Single Answer)

Support

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

Oppose

11. No new unfunded state mandates for public schools (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? (answer type: Long Text)

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Mandatory masks in all schools for students and staff. Vaccines should be mandated for all staff. When it comes to public safety a statewide approach is needed. Individual districts should have autonomy on length of school day and hybrid learning options.

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? (answer type: Long Text)

Infrastructure issues are a local issue. The State should not be in a position to mandate improvements without providing funds. If the funding is available I would support shared funding by the State for all districts so that the local district is not solely responsible for the costs.

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? How will you support the work of educators and principals in your district? (answer type: Long Text)

Professional educators should be involved in every decision on curriculum.

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? (answer type: Long Text)

Standardized tests are not an accurate reflection of comprehension. Educators should be the ones determining proficiency.

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? How will you promote diversity within our future workforce? (answer type: Long Text)

We have seen success in certain fields for employer paid education and/or loan repayment programs. Currently student loan forgiveness requires 10 years of payments before forgiveness. We need to look at ways to offer funding to college students who choose the teaching career path. I would explore grant options for students that commit to teaching in New Jersey for 5 years.

17. Will you vote for legislation (S-3284 (Greenstein)/ 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? (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? (answer type: Long Text)

My number one goal is to work with educators to update our curriculum. We are graduating students that lack essential skills needed for work or college. We need to consider whether there are alternative options for certain required classes and offering more options that utilize current technology.