

NJPSA Questionnaire for NJ Legislature - 2021 General Election

User: Lampitt, Pamela / Email: greenwaldandlampittforassembly@gmail.com

Survey answered on: 9/15/2021 07:31 PM

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

6

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)

609-703-5793

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

2240-15 Route 70, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

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

Mickey Quinn

609-703-5793

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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To ensure the safety of our school staff and students, it is critical that clear guidance is provided at the state level to provide consistent protocols across all school districts. While it is important that health protocols are applied consistently, we must also take into account the unique challenges and realities of each school district and school building. To help schools implement state guidance within the scope of their specific needs, it is important that local health departments are engaged and are constantly reviewing each districts' status.

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)

The pandemic highlighted the need to address the long neglected infrastructure issues in our schools, particular the need to update outdated HVAC systems. That is why I sponsored legislation (S3995) , now law, establishing a grant program within the Board of Public Utilities to assist school districts with HVAC improvements and water system upgrades.

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)

I cannot say enough about the tremendous work done by our educators, school administrators, and support staff to adapt, nearly overnight, to the new teaching reality imposed by the pandemic. They have continued to provide our students with an education that is second to none with the resources provided to them. However, COVID-19 has unfortunately caused almost all students to fall behind to academically and socially to some degree. The level of remediation and additional support will vary from student to student and school to school, which is why a one-size-fits-all approach will not be effective in addressing each student's unique needs. That is why I authored legislation (A5147) creating a grant program within DOE to provide schools with the financial resources and flexibility they need to address student learning loss.

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)

I believe in the need for a statewide academic assessment to ensure that all students across the state receive the education they deserve and to maintain New Jersey's strong academic standards; however, I believe we should consider the role of assessments as a part of student graduation requirement.

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)

Teacher shortage and lack of diversity in the teaching workforce was an issue even prior to the pandemic. Seeing the severe need for minority male teachers in the workforce, back in 2019 I authored the law which established a pilot program to help get more minority male teachers into the classroom by recruiting and helping guide them through the alternate route preparation program. To further explore the extent of the teacher shortage and diversity problem, in May of 2019 I held a

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special meeting of the Assembly Education Committee to hear from industry experts and professionals about how these shortages were impacting education in New Jersey and what must be done to address the problem. The hearing reinforced the profound need for a more racially diverse teaching workforce but also the need to recruit more educators, especially in STEM and ELL fields. We need to remove barriers for applicants looking to get into the workforce - including stronger recruitment, better preparation, and alternative means to get these prospective teachers into schools. To support new educators, the Legislature has taken action over the past year by relaxing reciprocity requirements for out-of-state teachers as well as making it easier for teaching students to gain classroom experience in a substitute teaching capacity. Additionally, to help grow the workforce pipeline for new teachers, I have authored pending legislation to establish a loan redemption program for new teachers who return to the school system from which they graduated to teach.

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)

As we continue to recover from the hardships imposed by COVID-19, it will be critical that our schools have the support they need as they address student learning loss, as well as the mental health and social emotional needs of our students. I remain committed to ensuring that our schools have the tools and resources they need to continue this essential work. As chair of the Assembly Education Committee, my door is always open to our school leaders and educators and by working together we can achieve the best educational outcomes for our students.