

# NJPSA Questionnaire for NJ Legislature - 2021 General Election

User: Lukac, Joseph / Email: joelukac3@gmail.com / Phone: (732) 690-2894

Survey answered on: 9/8/2021 12:11 PM

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

16

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

NJ State Assembly

3. Party: (answer type: Short Text)

Republican

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

908-419-0278

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

PO Box 131

Liberty Corner, NJ 07938

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

J.D. Bryden

908-419-0278

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

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**pandemic-related school health policies?&nbsp;&nbsp;  (answer type: Long Text)**

I believe with all of the variants out there right now, we must follow the leadership and recommendations of our public health officials. The Covid 19 Virus and it's variants have left us all in a vulnerable position and we must change policy as needed and update requirements for the safety of all.

**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)**

First off, I would have to study each district entirely, including how well managed and maintained it has been. We cannot invest tax dollars into districts who will not use them properly or have shown a track record of not using funding to do what is required to keep everyone safe and healthy. Second, I would then ensure proper fair funding is spread out as to not leave any districts behind.

**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 have always been a firm believer of letting the Teachers teach their subject or field of expertise. I disagree with the government implementing or forcing educators to teach off of what they were trained to teach.

**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)**

No. When I was previously elected to the Manville School Board, I disagreed with one test at the end to reflect a student's entire scholastic time. Some students have trouble with tests or are pressured by them. I have witnessed students with above average grades fail one single mandated test either because they had a bad day or freeze up during test taking.

**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)**

I would ensure that as an elected leader, I would remain mindful that shining a negative light on education only brings doubt among our residents. Education and educators should be heralded and positive programs should be implemented to allow students to witness the values of becoming an educator. As far as diversity, we have never had the issue in my town. Everyone is treated equally and there should never be any reason someone should be pushed away from becoming an educator regardless of race or creed.

**17. Will you vote for legislation (S-3284 (Greenstein)/ &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

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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)

My goals are to continue and enhance what we already have in NJ, and that is one of the best education systems in the country.

As a Legislature, I would like to increase opportunities for students to be able to enter and study into the trades and engineering fields. We should seriously start investing in schools geared to a students abilities and passions.