

# NJPSA Questionnaire for NJ Legislature - 2021 General Election

User: Quilter, Mary Sharon / Email: chinstrap732@yahoo.com

Survey answered on: 9/2/2021 03:37 PM

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

10

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

State Assembly

3. Party: (answer type: Short Text)

Democratic

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

(732) 687-0503

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

249 Coolidge Avenue

Seaside Heights, NJ 08751

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)

Oppose

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)

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We teach our students Science and subjects related to Science. How then can we teach Science yet ignore the research results our Scientists share with us? In person learning must be safe. For everyone. Our teachers are overburdened with mandated learning objectives. Health professionals recruited and paid with funding from Community Health Outreach Foundations should be pressed into service. They are the experts. They will dispense health policies an even handed manner to every school they service. Frankly, the thought of educators dispensing school health policies while marching beside parents who protest efforts to protect the safety of educators and students alike frightens me.

**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)**

Stakeholders and industry experts must be brought to the negotiating table. Including school administrators, teachers, students, facility maintenance and our first responders. State legislators need to intake every single concern our School Administrators share with us. We, as legislators interpret those needs and press them into viable legislation. I view state legislators as interpreters of community needs.

**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;   (answer type: Long Text)**

Every child has a different learning scale. We risk a reversal of educational process by ignoring that. Differently abled students are just that. Differently abled. As it stands right now 80% of Autistic students will never be able to support themselves as adults. We do no justice to the families impacted nor the public as a whole by reducing or unfunding efforts to change that.

**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;   (answer type: Long Text)**

Let me give you a quick example of how important that assessment is to our society. At a recent fundraiser I chatted with the President of the NJ Steelworkers Union. I was particularly interested in his thoughts about training students to become Steelworkers or any Construction Union worker for that matter. He relayed to me his disappointment in their efforts to do just that. He said, "Kids do not learn enough Math to do their jobs." If we assessed that deficiency and still had time to correct that deficiency, it would open the door to many life long and lucrative careers.

**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)**

Let teacher and schools teach. I am a retired worker myself. It is ever so easy to campaign and win elections by promoting mandates. The result is that many of us, educators, police, municipal employees become burdened to the point of inefficiency. Small wonder we can no longer recruit educators, municipal clerks, tax collectors, police and fire fighters. We have buried them in mandate paperwork. Mandates passed on by legislation. Legislation passed by elected officials with no

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working knowledge of the processes needed to fulfill their mandates.

**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

**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)**

Stakeholders and community intake as a whole must be drive legislation. Far too often, for profit organizations propel legislation. This must stop, now. Let me point to Opioid addiction and climate change brought about by fossil fuel companies. They are at the table. We must take our seat at the head of the table.