

NJPSA Questionnaire for NJ Legislature - 2021 General Election

User: Sampson, William / Email: sampsonforld31assembly@gmail.com

Survey answered on: 10/13/2021 04:04 PM

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

31

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

NJ General Assembly

3. Party: (answer type: Short Text)

Democratic

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

201-906-7604

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

470 BROADWAY SUITE 274, Bayonne, NJ 07002

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

Bernadette P. McPherson, Esq. - 201-906-7604- sampsonforld31assembly@gmail.com

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)

NJPSA Questionnaire for NJ Legislature - 2021 General Election

User: Sampson, William / Email: sampsonford31assembly@gmail.com

Survey answered on: 10/13/2021 04:04 PM

Schools must follow the CDC's guidelines with respect to COVID-19, but we also have to focus on the importance of in-person learning for our students in terms of their overall well being. Based on these factors, it is critical that the state and local school boards work in tandem to keep students and educators safe. Local school boards should be free to implement safety measures such as masking.

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)

We have come to learn that many school buildings have inadequate ventilation systems, and some even without adequate heating and air conditioning. Much like the importance of addressing the digital divide in schools, our state must assist in upgrading out of date school buildings across the state so that our students can learn to the best of their ability without having to worry about basic 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? How will you support the work of educators and principals in your district? (answer type: Long Text)

NJ's teachers, principals and administrative staff are the best in the country and we must continue to support them in their work. While day to day teaching should be left to educators, I support the teaching of inclusive culture and history as an important element of modern day curriculums.

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)

Teachers are in the best position to tailor assessments and determine the proficiency of students at all levels. The state graduation test requirements contain certain inherent biases that do not accurately reflect the actual knowledge of students but instead create obstacles to college and other career choices that require a high school diploma.

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)

Teachers are vastly underpaid for the important work that they do and for the level of education that they possess. We should do better as state in terms of creating a more viable teacher career pipeline and we should eliminate overbearing core tests that create needless barriers to those seeking to join the profession.

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

NJPSA Questionnaire for NJ Legislature - 2021 General Election

User: Sampson, William / Email: sampsonforld31assembly@gmail.com

Survey answered on: 10/13/2021 04:04 PM

type: Long Text)

Every school district should be fully funded as per the SFRA. We must fully fund out of date school buildings and continue to create better environments for learning and for teaching. Also, we must do a better job of teaching students about non-college career options.