

*The Montgomery County Council of PTAs  
presents:*

*A Community-Focused,  
Public Education-Oriented*



Inside are positions on issues pertaining to Montgomery County Public Schools by candidates for the following political offices:

- *Montgomery County Executive*
- *Montgomery County Council,*
- *Montgomery County Board of Education*
- *Maryland State Senator*
- *Maryland State Delegate*

Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations

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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Alzona, Marcus**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 16

☐ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [vote@MarcusAlzona.com](mailto:vote@MarcusAlzona.com) / Phone: / Website: [MarcusAlzona.com](http://MarcusAlzona.com)

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth? 1.1

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed? 1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue? 1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates? 1.4

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities? 2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How? 2.2

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities? 2.3

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential? 3.1

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families? 3.2

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is 4.1



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Alzona, Marcus

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in 4.2 areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?

4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.

4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments

5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?

5.2

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?

6.1

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?

6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?

6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Beyer, Dana



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Beyer, Dana**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 18

☒ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [danamd@danabeyer.com](mailto:danamd@danabeyer.com) / Phone: / Website: [danabeyer.com](http://danabeyer.com)

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth?

1.1 As a unified force, something we've failed to do in the past. We must make it clear that with nearly 40% FARMS students, we must be taken seriously with respect to funding.

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed?

1.2 Yes. This is a moral issue, and gambling was sold as a supplement. Allowing diversions is unacceptable.

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue?

1.3 Yes, and this is a state issue. Start with 4 year-olds, then move to 3. It should come from general revenues, and all state children should be treated equally.

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates?

1.4 I support local autonomy, though I believe state law, such as anti-discrimination law, should apply throughout the state. It's a shame that the calendar is a political football, but carve-outs should be allowed to deal with problem.

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities?

2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How?

2.2 Yes. We have rarely worked together effectively as a county in the past few decades, as Baltimore City did a few years back. The new county delegation needs leadership with the understanding that fairness will only come from the strength of the delegation

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities?

2.3 Yes. Needs change, architectural goals change, materials and technology change. Well-paying construction jobs will not only create modern schools but provide good jobs as well. We also need to do a better job with maintenance and upkeep.

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential?

3.1 Start with educating all children at the youngest age possible. Provide oversight to ensure that state and county money is spent equitably. Encourage teachers to choose under-served systems with better pay and benefits. Support community schools, which have greater buy-in from non-parents.

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families?

3.2 Create more school wellness centers, and run more school fairs to attract parents. Ensure there are sufficient translators to make parents more comfortable.

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is

4.1 I've spend the past 25 years working to include the most vulnerable community in America, the trans community, in all walks of life. Teachers, and, more importantly, administrators, must be engaged to ensure empathy and support for all.



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Beyer, Dana

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?	4.2 The school board and county council must work together to deal with these growing problems. We've fought for years, unsuccessfully, to increase the number of wellness centers in schools, which function as safe spaces for students. Parents should help create reasonable smartphone usage policies
4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?	4.3 [No response requested]
4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.	4.4 When I worked for CM Trachtenberg we tried, with little success, to increase the number of in-school wellness and mental health centers. I'm still committed.

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments	5.1 [No response requested]
5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?	5.2 Yes. Why would anyone reject this? Most people do not report, and, as a result, must be encouraged by law to do so. In most cases these are coded out as misdemeanors.

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?	6.1 As is usually the case, it comes down to educating the public that quality education costs money. We've spend nearly forty years hearing the opposite, and we must stop fearing to speak the truth. Fortunately, most voters put a very high priority on quality education.
6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently boke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?	6.2 [No response requested]
6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund fo school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?	6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Carhart, Michelle





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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Carhart, Michelle**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 18

☐ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [michelle@michellecarhart.com](mailto:michelle@michellecarhart.com) / Phone: / Website: [michellecarhart.com](http://michellecarhart.com)

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth? 1.1

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed? 1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue? 1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates? 1.4

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities? 2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How? 2.2

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities? 2.3

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential? 3.1

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families? 3.2

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is 4.1



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Carhart, Michelle

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in 4.2 areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?

4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.

4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments

5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?

5.2

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?

6.1

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?

6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?

6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Drozd, Robert





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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Drozd, Robert**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 14

☒ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [robert.s.drozd@gmail.com](mailto:robert.s.drozd@gmail.com) / Phone: / Website:

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth?

1.1 The MoCo delegation should always be working to ensure MCPS receives its appropriate share of State contributions. Likewise, the MoCo council should be working to ensure its growth is managed appropriately to maintain a commensurate tax base across its po

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed?

1.2 The State's share of gaming revenue should have always been used to supplement, not supplant, school funding. Democrats held a veto-proof majority for the past several cycles, yet have not fixed this issu

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue?

1.3 Early childhood education should be available to all, benefiting both our citizens and our State's competitiveness. This is a shared obligation between State and County, and funding should also be shared.

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates?

1.4 Education decisions are shared between State & County. MCPS has not demonstrated deference to parental concerns. Like many parents, I strongly support the new mandated start date, and resent pushback heard from the education community. Recall MCPS was poi

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities?

2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How?

2.2 Fair representation is a hallmark of my campaign, whether it's funding equity or ending gerrymandering. That said, the State is obligated to best steer funding where it will do the most good for the whole State, while the County - run entirely by Democrat

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities?

2.3 I would support such collaboration. I would also go a step further to encourage private sector collaboration, as well. Public/private partnerships offer tremendous promise to unleash even greater innovation, a value we hope to evoke in our children.

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential?

3.1 MoCo needs to generate societal opportunities outside the schools that reinforce the efforts within the schools. Equity can't end at the classroom door.

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families?

3.2 Communication must be two-way. MCPS needs to listen as much as it speaks, and accept as much as it rejects.

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is

4.1 Respect, not tolerance, is the key. Tolerance implies an inherent dislike that one simply buries; respect allows one to be open to being wrong. In every supervisory position I've held, equal respect has been the standard.



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Drozd, Robert

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?	4.2 Parents must be involved at all stages. Regulations must never be imposed without parental consent. They must not be allowed to interfere with the delivery of education. And, they must be regularly reviewed and assessed to ensure they remain relevant.
4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?	4.3 [No response requested]
4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.	4.4 Mental health is a spectrum, and all too often those who suffer are stigmatized regardless of where they fall on that spectrum. MCPS must ensure those providing mental health and counseling services are themselves fully qualified.

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments	5.1 [No response requested]
5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?	5.2 Yes. This is an obligation we all share within society. That said, the legislation must have appropriate safeguards to ensure reporting is not, itself, abused.

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?	6.1 MoCo needs to look very carefully at its long-range planning to manage growth more effectively. Growth must be matched by facilities, staff, and transportation, which require revenue growth and a pro-business model to attract and retain good paying jobs to the region. These issues are all connected.
6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently boke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?	6.2 [No response requested]
6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund fo school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?	6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Feldman, Brian J.



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Feldman, Brian J.**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 15

☒ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [senator.feldman@gmail.com](mailto:senator.feldman@gmail.com) / Phone: 3015175719 / Website: [BrianJFeldman.com](http://BrianJFeldman.com)

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth?

1.1 The Delegation, the largest in the General Assembly, should refuse to lend support/vote for other priority legislation until a more equitable state contribution level is negotiated on such a critical issue for our County.

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed?

1.2 I support a Constitutional Amendment which places MD Casino revenue in a "lockbox" for education. Those Casino \$\$ should not simply supplant current funding levels but should enhance/supplement our funding commitment to education, the only spending prior

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue?

1.3 I support making early childhood education accessible to all residents, which is essential to reducing the still prevalent "achievement gap". This must be a shared State-County responsibility. I look forward to working with MCCPTA to craft a sensible fun

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates?

1.4 Each school system is unique and I support the fundamental principle that local school boards should be given autonomy to do their job and be protected from an overreaching State Board of Ed or Governor. In 2017, I supported HB 978, the Protect Our School

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities?

2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How?

2.2 The County Delegation continues to gain strength in Annapolis, both in numbers and in leadership positions. The time has come to revisit the antiquated system currently in place for awarding school construction dollars and to replace the system with one t

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities?

2.3 I would support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities.

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential?

3.1 I support the establishment of community schools, a research based strategy, which are designed to close opportunity gaps by making school a hub for essential services that students in disadvantaged communities lack.

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families?

3.2 Communication with students and families should clearly be a very high priority. I look forward to working with MCCPTA on multi-faceted strategies to accomplish this.

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is

4.1 I am fully committed to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. A failure to do address these issues can impact the overall well being of a student, including their mental well being and self esteem, which in turn can impact their ability to achieve their full life potential.



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Feldman, Brian J.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?              | 4.2 To address these issues holistically, whether it be physical health, mental health, access to technology, youth employment or nutrition, the creation of community schools through regulations where the school can serve as a hub for all these essential services makes a great deal of sense, |
| 4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies? | 4.3 [No response requested]  |
| 4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.  | 4.4 As the Chair of the Senate subcommittee with jurisdiction over all behavioral health issues, I am fully committed to ensuring that all MCPS students get the mental health and counseling services that they need.   |

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments | 5.1 [No response requested]   |
| 5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?  | 5.2 Yes. I supported SB 135 during the 2017 Session, a Failure to Report bill similar to what exists in the other 48 states.. |

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?   | 6.1 I am fully committed to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small. I have been endorsed by the Montgomery County Education Association and the Maryland State Education Association based, in part, on my voting record and positions on this very issue. |
| 6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans? | 6.2 [No response requested]  |
| 6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?   | 6.3 [No response requested]  |

### Candidate: Jeang, David



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Jeang, David**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 19

☒ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [davidjeang@gmail.com](mailto:davidjeang@gmail.com) / Phone: / Website:

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth?

1.1 See if the legislation is a redistribution of state funding to other counties or simply a cut. If the former, make a key examination of the county education budgets to determine the commission's reasonings and amend legislation if necessary to ensure no l

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed?

1.2 Yes, support for the casinos was on the basis that the revenue would go to helping the schools. All branches of MSEA are advocating for HB1697/SB1122, the Fix the Fund Act this year, that will lock 500 million from the fund to direct aid for public school

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue?

1.3 Yes, universal Pre-k allows more economic equality opportunities for poorer families. In my opinion, it's a national issue. Closing tax loopholes in the state and eliminating redundant overhead in the education budget can allocate funding for a state prog

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates?

1.4 As a stern believer in decentralization, I support autonomy. I would draft/support legislation that limits the duties of the state education board and encourage more teacher/parent staffing from all locales.

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities?

2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How?

2.2 Yes, as the shortfall is likely a factor that denied full funding for needed teacher raises in MoCo. Two things that can be done is rework the budgeting algorithm to accommodate more proportional to school populations and have neighboring areas (like DC) a

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities?

2.3 Yes, but to avoid overreach from the state, the state board and task force must have a limit/ratio to the number of non-local officials assigned to each project. All projects must have local hearings with full public disclosure, along with the final approval by the local board as well.

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential?

3.1 Equity programs should be implemented for rural and poorer school districts so they receive adequate resources and magnet programs should be placed in areas of higher density so as many schools as possible have an even and diverse student/faculty population.

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families?

3.2 Town Halls and community forums for education boards should be arranged on at least a quarterly basis for direct dialogue.

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is

4.1 I would strive to implement a school model based on the Inclusive Schools Climate Initiative pioneered by Rutgers University that covers virtually all aspects of diversity, needs, and values. (resources to start with: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/specialed/isci/WebsitesReadings.pdf>)





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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Jeang, David

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?	4.2 Increase the number of multi-purpose classrooms for curriculum flexibility, create school broadband packages for reliable Internet services while limiting wifi, have school gardens to promote a healthy outdoor culture, and require a certain level of produce in cafeteria meals fro healthy eating.
4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?	4.3 [No response requested]
4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.	4.4 Like teachers, there should be a set ratio of counselors. I will work with our state's ASCA branch to highlight counseling in legislation for schools.

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments	5.1 [No response requested]
5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?	5.2 Yes. Rape and child abuse scandals years old that keep blowing up in our schools clearly show corruption and cover-up.

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuing capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?	6.1 I will work with school organizations to pass legislation that will allocate more funding in the education budget to build more schools and set a teacher-student ratio in classrooms. And perhaps explore a morning group and evening group to create a new system that can handle more classes.
6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently boke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?	6.2 [No response requested]
6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund fo school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?	6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Kagan, Cheryl C.



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Kagan, Cheryl C.**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 17

☐ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [info@cherylkagan.org](mailto:info@cherylkagan.org) / Phone: / Website: [www.cherylkagan.org](http://www.cherylkagan.org)

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth? 1.1

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed? 1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue? 1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates? 1.4

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities? 2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How? 2.2

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities? 2.3

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential? 3.1

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families? 3.2

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is 4.1





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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Kagan, Cheryl C.**

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in 4.2 areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?

4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.

4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments

5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?

5.2

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?

6.1

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?

6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?

6.3 [No response requested]

**Candidate: King, Nancy J.**



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: King, Nancy J.**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 39

☒ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [njk107@aol.com](mailto:njk107@aol.com) / Phone: 3019630034 / Website: [www.FriendsofNancyKing.com](http://www.FriendsofNancyKing.com)

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth?

1.1 I firmly believe Montgomery County will receive fair treatment when the new funding formulas are completed. If for some reason we are not treated fairly, it will be up to the delegation to fight for more equitable funding.

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed?

1.2 There is currently legislation in the General Assembly to create a "lock box" on casino gaming funds to ensure that those funds go directly to the Education Trust Fund to supplement school funding. I support this legislation and am a co-sponsor of the bill

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue?

1.3 For many years I have been an advocate for expanding Pre-K to all families who wish to attend. It will have to be funded with both State and local dollars.

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates?

1.4 As a former member of Montgomery County Board of Education and now as a State Senator, I am acutely aware of the need for local control whenever possible.

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities?

2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How?

2.2 As a State Senator, I am responsible to meet the needs of not only my District, but of the entire State. I will continue to work to ensure that Montgomery County receives fair and equitable capital funding.

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities?

2.3 As a member of the 21st Century School Facilities Commission, I have kept an open mind on the various recommendations that have come before the Commission and I support State/local collaboration where feasible.

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential?

3.1 I believe that Maryland has an excellent public education system, but I recognize that improvements can be made which is why I sponsored the legislation that created the Kirwan Commission. It is a goal of the Commission to ensure that all students in Maryland receive a high quality education.

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families?

3.2 This is not a statewide issue. It should be addressed by the Board of Education.

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is

4.1 Since my time on the School Board I have advocated for acceptance and tolerance. I have supported policies against bullying and would support any policies or regulations that seek to ensure that every student knows their value and importance to the community.



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: King, Nancy J.**

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure? 4.2 This is a broad and diverse range of issues, but I am willing to look at any legislative initiatives that would support student safety.

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies? 4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students. 4.4 I would support any legislative initiatives that would ensure greater access to mental health and counseling services.

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments 5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not? 5.2 I voted for legislation to enact a failure to report law that passed by the Maryland Senate on February 8th.

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small? 6.1 I introduced legislation in 2016 that resulted in additional funding for school systems with significant enrollment growth or relocatable classrooms and I continue to be committed to bringing fair and equitable capital funding back to Montgomery County.

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans? 6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers? 6.3 [No response requested]

**Candidate: Kramer, Ben**



Instructions: Please fill out this form by March 13, 2018 for inclusion in the 2018 MCCPTA Guide for Voters. E-mail it to: [Questionnaire2018@mccpta.org](mailto:Questionnaire2018@mccpta.org)  
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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Kramer, Ben**

Office: State Senator District: Legislative District 19

☐ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [benfkramer@aol.com](mailto:benfkramer@aol.com) / Phone: 3015705555 / Website: [www.benkramer.org](http://www.benkramer.org)

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth? 1.1

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed? 1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue? 1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates? 1.4

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities? 2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How? 2.2

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities? 2.3

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential? 3.1

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families? 3.2

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is 4.1



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Kramer, Ben

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in 4.2 areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?

4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.

4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments

5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?

5.2

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?

6.1

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?

6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?

6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Lee, Susan C.



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Lee, Susan C.**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 16

☒ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [senatorsusanlee@gmail.com](mailto:senatorsusanlee@gmail.com) / Phone: 3014930377 / Website: [susanleeforsenate.com](http://susanleeforsenate.com)

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth?

1.1 Our Montgomery County delegation must work collaboratively with other delegations, our County Executive, Council, School Board, Superintendent, MCCPTA, MCEA and other stakeholders to oppose measures that reduce the state's contributions to MCPS and support

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed?

1.2 Casino revenues should be used to supplement, not supplant funding in the Education Trust Fund. I am supporting a bill, which via a Constitutional Amendment creates an education funding lock box; thereby requiring casino money to go toward funding above

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue?

1.3 Yes, I support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents. Studies have shown that Pre-K has helped increase students ability to be successful academically and in life. I support increased expansion and funding for Pr

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates?

1.4 I have and will continue to support policies and legislation to support local school board autonomy, including working with county stakeholders on those efforts, as each county has unique issues and challenges.

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities?

2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How?

2.2 Achieving our critical needs requires our County Delegation, Executive, Council, School Board, MCCPTA, & other stakeholders to work together when going before the Interagency Committee on School Construction. As the governor has the most power on the bud

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities?

2.3 I support legislation and policies with new and creative approaches that will provide incentives to move forward state and local collaboration to ensure our county receives adequate funding for critical school construction upgrades and renovations.

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential?

3.1 I support updating and building on the Thornton, Bridge to Excellence in Education. While the Kirwan Commission's final report has not yet been completed, I will support those recommendations that would help Montgomery County meet and exceed its critical needs.

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families?

3.2 Improved communication by MCPS with students & families must be a high priority. It benefits all stakeholders and enables families to be better informed on and have input on policies, security and other matters to ensure students' ability to succeed and learn in a nurturing and safe environment.

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is

4.1 I support efforts to expand the Montgomery County Public Schools programs and activities that promote diversity, inclusion, sensitivity, and tolerance. Every student should be respected and feel valued and be able to succeed and learn in a supportive, nurturing, and safe environment.





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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Lee, Susan C.**

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?	4.2 I have and will continue to support MCPS efforts in setting standards that promote physical and mental health and wellness and digital safety/WiFi. I have supported and sponsored legislation to fight cyber bullying and online crimes against children, including being the lead sponsor of Alicia's Law
4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?	4.3 [No response requested]
4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.	4.4 I have and will continue to support policies and legislative measures to help MCPS provide mental health and counseling services for students.

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments	5.1 [No response requested]
5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?	5.2 Yes, I have supported and sponsored Failure to Report legislation that will protect our children from abuse and neglect.

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?	6.1 To achieve our goals, I will work with our County Executive, Council, School Board, MCCPTA & other stakeholders when going before the Interagency Committee on School Construction. As the governor has the most power on the budget, he must also work with our stakeholders.
6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?	6.2 [No response requested]
6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?	6.3 [No response requested]

**Candidate: Martinez, Alirio E. Jr.**





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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Martinez, Alirio E. Jr.**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 19

☐ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [aliriomcgop@gmail.com](mailto:aliriomcgop@gmail.com) / Phone: 4432580014 / Website:

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth? 1.1

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed? 1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue? 1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates? 1.4

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities? 2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How? 2.2

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities? 2.3

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential? 3.1

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families? 3.2

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is 4.1



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Martinez, Alirio E. Jr.**

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in 4.2 areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?

4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.

4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments

5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?

5.2

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?

6.1

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?

6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?

6.3 [No response requested]

**Candidate: Patel, Dwight**



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Patel, Dwight**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 20

☐ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [dwright@dwightpatel.com](mailto:dwright@dwightpatel.com) / Phone: 3015301138 / Website: [www.dwrightformaryland.com](http://www.dwrightformaryland.com)

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth? 1.1

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed? 1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue? 1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates? 1.4

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities? 2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How? 2.2

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities? 2.3

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential? 3.1

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families? 3.2

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is 4.1



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Patel, Dwight

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in 4.2 areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?

4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.

4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments

5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?

5.2

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?

6.1

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?

6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?

6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Phillips, Al



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Phillips, Al**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 39

☐ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [alphillips207@comcast.net](mailto:alphillips207@comcast.net) / Phone: / Website:

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth? 1.1

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed? 1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue? 1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates? 1.4

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities? 2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How? 2.2

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities? 2.3

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential? 3.1

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families? 3.2

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is 4.1



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Phillips, Al

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in 4.2 areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?

4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.

4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments

5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?

5.2

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?

6.1

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?

6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?

6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Smith, Will



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Smith, Will**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 20

☐ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [williamsmithjr@gmail.com](mailto:williamsmithjr@gmail.com) / Phone: / Website: [www.SmithForMaryland.com](http://www.SmithForMaryland.com)

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth? 1.1

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed? 1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue? 1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates? 1.4

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities? 2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How? 2.2

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities? 2.3

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential? 3.1

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families? 3.2

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is 4.1





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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Smith, Will

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in 4.2 areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?

4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.

4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments

5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?

5.2

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?

6.1

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?

6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?

6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: St. Preux, Vardly E.



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: St. Preux, Vardly E.**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 20

☒ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [generalnorth@gmail.com](mailto:generalnorth@gmail.com) / Phone: 2402865857 / Website:

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth?

1.1 I believe the appropriate response should be to keep the funding proportionsate

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed?

1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue?

1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates?

1.4 I believe that the local school board should retain control of issues involving school districts, as it

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities?

2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How?

2.2 The Montgomery County state funding should be proportionate to the growth of the population.

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities?

2.3 Yes, I believe that new ideas and approaches must be considered when metwith growing challenges of key project costs.

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential?

3.1 Students must believe that they can achieve before they will risk trying, and young people are astute at sensing whether their teachers believe they can succeed. By the same token, highly qualified teachers, access to current technology and differentiating instruction to suit the students learning.

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families?

3.2 I believe that strong partnerships, built on trust and open and honest communication, and establishing relationships with our diverse community require us to understand the perspectives and experiences of others.

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is

4.1 I believe that in order to foster a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance, we must engage every student, every day. learning is achieved by cultivating curiosity and encouraging determination, focus, and hard work; and adult learning and engagement are key to student learning.



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: St. Preux, Vardly E.**

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure? 4.2 This is a loaded question that deserves individual attention to each of the areas ranges. Physical and mental health is in itself a lengthy entry.

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies? 4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students. 4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments 5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not? 5.2 Yes, the reason being that nearly every State and U.S. territory imposes penalties, often in the form of a fine or imprisonment, on mandatory reporters who fail to report suspected child abuse or neglect as required by law.

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small? 6.1 I According to Durso Bowers the Montgomery County Council's tentative approval of the Montgomery County Public Schools operating budget for next year provides \$37.9 million of additional funding that will allow us to reduce class sizes in many classrooms across the district and accelerate our effort

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently boke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans? 6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund fo school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers? 6.3 [No response requested]

**Candidate: Waldstreicher, Jeff**



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Waldstreicher, Jeff**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 18

☐ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [jeff@jeffwaldstreicher.com](mailto:jeff@jeffwaldstreicher.com) / Phone: 3012212696 / Website:

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth?

1.1 to growth trends as they pertain to certain areas within the county and the

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed?

1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue?

1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates?

1.4 is most keenly understood by those in direct access to the working information and operational

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities?

2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How?

2.2 We should put in place a bi-annual assessment of available earmarked funding and vote whether

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities?

2.3

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential?

3.1

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families?

3.2

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is

4.1



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Waldstreicher, Jeff

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in 4.2 areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?

4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.

4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments

5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?

5.2

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?

6.1

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?

6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?

6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Wang, Josephine J.



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Wang, Josephine J.**

Office: State Senator District: Legislative District 17

☐ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [josie382@gmail.com](mailto:josie382@gmail.com) / Phone: 3014179256 / Website:

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth?

1.1 projected numbers of population growth.

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed?

1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue?

1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates?

1.4 issues involving key decisions. The state should only assist from a standpoint of support.

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities?

2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How?

2.2 it should be increased or remain the same, according to need.

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities?

2.3

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential?

3.1

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families?

3.2

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is

4.1





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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Wang, Josephine J.

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in 4.2 areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?

4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.

4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments

5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?

5.2

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?

6.1

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?

6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?

6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Wilson, David



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Wilson, David**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 15

☐ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [votefordavidwilson@gmail.com](mailto:votefordavidwilson@gmail.com) / Phone: / Website: [votefordavidwilson.com](http://votefordavidwilson.com)

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth? 1.1

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed? 1.2

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue? 1.3

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates? 1.4

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities? 2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How? 2.2

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities? 2.3

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential? 3.1

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families? 3.2

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is 4.1



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Wilson, David

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in 4.2 areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure?

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies?

4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students.

4.4

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments

5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not?

5.2

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small?

6.1

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans?

6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers?

6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Xin, Hongjun



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Xin, Hongjun**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 15

☒ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [hongjunxin@gmail.com](mailto:hongjunxin@gmail.com) / Phone: 6462588988 / Website:

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth?

1.1 It is ridiculous to reduce contribution to school. I support more contributions to schools or let teachers and students have more resources to build up bright future of the country.

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed?

1.2 Yes, casino revenue can be used to schools to educate kids especially how to identify gambling or fun

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue?

1.3 I support. We can get funds from state.

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates?

1.4 I support autonomy. More teachers can be elected to state office for better understanding and decision making.

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities?

2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How?

2.2 This issue must be fixed. My first bill will be school related

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities?

2.3 Yes, I support

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential?

3.1 Hire More teachers, build more classrooms.

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families?

3.2 More meeting and open house for family

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is

4.1 Respect kids from different backgrounds



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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Candidate: Xin, Hongjun

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure? 4.2 Use world best standard, please

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies? 4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students. 4.4 We must take care of this matter.

### 5. Safety

#### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments? 5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not? 5.2 Yes. We should join.

### 6. Growth

#### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small? 6.1 Get more funds from state or federal.

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans? 6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers? 6.3 [No response requested]

### Candidate: Zucker, Craig J.



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\* Candidates for Board of Education, fill out 2.1; 2.3; 3.1-3.2; 4.1-4.4; 5.1; 6.1

## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Zucker, Craig J.**

**Office:** State Senator **District:** Legislative District 14

☒ Questionnaire Returned

Email: [craig@craigzucker.com](mailto:craig@craigzucker.com) / Phone: 3014760914 / Website:

### 1. State Funding + Policies

#### Answers

*Background In June 2016, the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the "Kirwan Commission," was established in order to review education financing formulas/ measures and determine how best to prepare students to compete in the workforce and global economy.*

1.1 FORMULAS. How should the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly respond if the Commission recommends legislation that reduces State contributions to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) even as it accounts for 40% of Maryland's school enrollment growth?

1.1 We do not have to accept all the committee recommendations. We will not allow a reduction of contributions to MCPS.

1.2 CASINO REVENUE. Should surging revenue from State-sanctioned casinos be used to supplement-- and not supplant-- school funding in the Education Trust Fund? How should this be addressed?

1.2 Yes, I co-sponsored legislation that locks in the funding for public schools. It would be a constitutional amendment further helping to secure it.

1.3 PRE-K. Do you support making early childhood education accessible to all Montgomery County residents? How should it be funded? Is this strictly a State issue? A County issue?

1.3 Yes, however, it needs to be phased in. I support and co-sponsored legislation that expands early childhood education, especially in underserved areas. Some of this can be funded through revenues we receive from federal action.

1.4 LOCAL AUTONOMY. What is your position on local school board autonomy? If supportive, what measures would you take to ensure State wide office holders cannot infringe on key decisions, such as school start- and end-dates?

1.4 I support local board autonomy. I have co-sponsored legislation that allows local boards of education to extend the school by 5 days under certain circumstances.

### 2. Capital Improvements

#### Answers

*Background Concerned over the County's debt, the Council voted in October to reduce General Obligation bonds over six years by \$180 million. According to MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith, the County's lower spending affordability guidelines will harm MCPS capital project possibilities.*

2.1 SPENDING AFFORDABILITY GUIDELINES. Do you support this move? What measures should be taken to finance MCPS' growing capital improvement needs— both upgrades to aging infrastructure and capacity expansion? Should school construction take a backseat to other County infrastructure priorities?

2.1 [No response requested]

2.2 STATE CAPITAL FUNDING. The Montgomery County Public School System accounts for approximately 18 percent of Maryland's school population, but only receives about 12 percent of state capital funding. Should this be remedied? How?

2.2 The MCPS's capital requests are equal or greater than MD's entire capital budget. Even with these challenges, I am very proud that the District 14 legislative team was able to secure close to \$100 million for schools within our jurisdiction, since 2011. O

2.3 NEW CIP APPROACHES. The Maryland 21st Century School Facilities Commission recommends trying new ideas or approaches to school construction to provide more State funds for key project costs or procedural flexibility. Would you support incentives to drive State/local collaboration to allow for such opportunities?

2.3 Yes, if Montgomery County gets its fair share.

### 3. Communication and Addressing Equity

#### Answers

3.1 ACHIEVING EQUITY. What measures should be put in place to ensure every child (regardless of disability, geography, socio-economic conditions, ethnicity, or other factors) receives high quality instruction to meet his/her potential?

3.1 Delegate Luedtke and I sponsored the Protect Our Schools Act. This takes into consideration school environment and focused on less testing more learning.

3.2 OUTREACH. What should MCPS's priorities be in improving communication with students and families?

3.2 I would encourage MCPS to keep open lanes of communication with parents and families in particular prior to policy changes. As a parent of a public-school student that is very important to me and my family.

### 4. Health and School Climate

#### Answers

4.1 DIVERSITY INCLUSION. Describe your commitment to fostering a climate of cultural sensitivity and tolerance. Beyond condemning hate speech, please discuss the need to ensure every student feels safe, respected, and valued for being exactly who he/she is

4.1 Every child in MCPS should feel safe and welcome. Given all the negative language coming from the federal executive branch, this becomes even more important. This session I sponsored legislation along with Delegate Kelly that requires age appropriate consent to be taught in schools.





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## VOTER GUIDE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Candidate: Zucker, Craig J.**

4.2 STANDARDS. How should regulations be used to advance school standards in areas ranging from physical and mental health wellness to digital safety and WiFi exposure? 4.2 Each school district has different needs and challenges, and it is important that local school districts provide leadership on these issues.

4.3 HEALTH/NUTRITION. Should health and nutrition education be better integrated into MCPS curricula? How might this impact MCPS' Food and Nutrition Division practices and policies? 4.3 [No response requested]

4.4 MENTAL HEALTH. Please describe your commitment to ensuring adequate mental health and counseling services for MCPS students. 4.4

### 5. Safety

### Answers

5.1 POLICE/MCPS. What is your perception of cooperation between MCPS and the Montgomery County Police Department to advance school security? What incentives should be considered to recruit the best officers for Security Resource Officer assignments? 5.1 [No response requested]

5.2 WITNESS OF ABUSE. Should Maryland join 48 other States in enacting Failure to Report laws? Why/why not? 5.2

### 6. Growth

### Answers

6.1 ENROLLMENT. With MCPS enrollment growing at 2,000 to 3,000 students per year, what is your commitment to ensuring capacity keeps pace with growth, and class sizes remain small? 6.1 I am committed to working with my colleagues to obtain increased levels of school construction funding that will help keep class sizes manageable.

6.2 PLANNING. The Council recently broke with convention, requiring key development plans to consider impacts on MCPS growth and for Planning staff to review all parcels for new school construction. Should school land be a top public amenity in such plans? 6.2 [No response requested]

6.3 SUBDIVISION. In the next Subdivision Staging Policy revision, would you support a dedicated fund for school land acquisition, financed in part by land developers? 6.3 [No response requested]