



Candidate Comments

2018 GENERAL ASSEMBLY CANDIDATE SURVEY

For the 2018 Maryland CAPE Candidate Surveys, candidates were asked the questions below, exactly as they appear. Candidates were asked to state a position of either “support” or “oppose” to each question and were then given the option of issuing additional comments relative to each question in order to explain their position.

Please note that all candidates were issued reminders of the survey submission deadline and had ample and equal opportunity to respond. If candidates did not submit comments, they are not included on this form. “N/A” indicates that a candidate did not issue a comment relative to a particular question. All candidates’ respective “support” or “oppose” answers can be found by visiting <http://www.mdnonpubs.org/2018electionsurveys.html>.

***** Maryland CAPE does not endorse or oppose any candidate, under any circumstance, and no inference of endorsement or opposition should be concluded as a result of the information provided here.**

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

1. NONPUBLIC TEXTBOOK PROGRAM

- Do you support or oppose funding in the Maryland state budget to provide textbooks and technology to assist students attending low-tuition nonpublic schools?

2. EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

- Do you support or oppose the expansion of options for low-income Maryland students through the provision of scholarships to enable them to attend the nonpublic K-12 school of their parents’ choice?

3. AGING SCHOOLS PROGRAM

- Do you support or oppose the Nonpublic Aging Schools Program, which provides \$3.5 million in state assistance directed toward aging and/or lower-income nonpublic schools for infrastructural maintenance or security upgrades?

4. DIVERSE DELIVERY PREKINDERGARTEN EXPANSION

- Do you support or oppose a “diverse delivery” method of state-funded prekindergarten expansion, wherein both nonpublic prekindergarten programs and public schools would be utilized in expanding access for prekindergarten to all Maryland four-year-olds?

District 1

Michael M Dreisbach (D) - 1A - House of Delegates

1. I would like to have more information but believe whenever we can reach out to help the student population no matter what their economic level we should.
2. I could look at this very closely. I do think is in the best interest for the education system to have a wide range of social interaction for the entire student body.
3. I really need more information
4. I would support such an approach to allow the students at this age to get as much prekindergarten school as possible regardless of public or private.

Wendell R. Beitzel (R) - 1A - House of Delegates

1. I serve on the House Appropriations committee and supported funding for this purpose in the 2018 budget.
2. Maryland is required by constitutional provision to provide a public education system for all of our children. I someone elects to send their children to a private school it is their choice, but taxpayers should not subsidize the costs.
3. I voted for the FY 2019 Budget which contains this funding.
4. The cost is astronomical and this turns out to be nothing more that pubic subsidized day care for parents.

Jordan Lysczek (R) - 1C - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. Education is crucial to ensuring our future success as a state-economically, socially, and beyond.
3. I support such a program, however feel this type of state assistance should take a backseat to the programs which provide textbooks at low-tuition non-public schools and scholarships to low-income students. I prioritize the latter over the former, if funding is an issue.
4. There is an urgent and pressing need for the expansion of prekindergarten programs, particularly in my rural district. Washington County recently scored near the bottom of the state with respect to kindergarten readiness. Pre-k education is a key building block and its impact is felt far into the future. It is short-sighted to neglect pre-k education and we need to expand such programs as much as possible if we want the next generation to succeed economically & socially.

District 2

William Joseph Wivell (R) - 2A - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. Overall, I support competition in pre-k if it were to be expanded. I am not convinced, however, that pre-k expansion is the best use of a limited resource -- taxpayer funds. I have never felt that it is fair to offer pre-k in only low income areas. I currently work as a Business Manager for a private school and am a product of private and public schools. Competition is good. It raises the bar for all.

District 3

Ryan Trout (D) - 3A - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. N/A

3. N/A
4. I strongly support the expansion of public prekindergarten to all Maryland families.

Mike Bowersox (R) - 3A - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. I support Catholic Education and my Granddaughters go to a Charter School. I think a potential solution to solve overcrowding public schools, is that private schools, that have empty seats, could be filled by students, in those areas, with tuition subsidy's, by the state.

Jennifer Dougherty (D) - 3 - Senate

1. I attended 16 years of Catholic education. My parents made the choice for me as a child and the choice my parents supported for high school and college. The choice came with the knowledge that public tax monies would not be supporting the school.
2. I do not support the use of vouchers/scholarships, although I do support local, public, charter schools. One of the reasons I want to serve in the State Senate is to fix what is broken. Abandoning the responsibility to repair failing schools is a failure of government leadership, but taking money out of the system is not a path I support.
3. Maryland public schools are rated highly, but our community has many aging public schools that are in need of modernization, upgrades in security, or replacement. Taking money out of the public system -- when it remains open to all students -- is counter-productive.
4. I support state-wide, all day kindergarten. I remain committed to adequately funding public schools for all Maryland families.

Ken Kerr (D) - 3B - House of Delegates

1. Until public schools are fully funded, I do not support taking money from Constitutionally-required public education and awarding it to discretionary private institutions.
2. Public Schools in my district have been underfunded for a decade. We have the second lowest starting salary for teachers in the state. We cannot afford to lose needed public funding for private schools at this time.
3. While some areas of the state may have a great need for private schools, Frederick County has no failing schools and does not need to fund private institutions to meet the educational needs of the residents of my district or my county.
4. Until the State adopts and is able to staff and fund universal, all-day Pre-K, I am in favor of getting as many 3 and 4-year-old children into school as soon as possible.

District 4

Dan Cox (R) - 4 - House of Delegates

1. Provided equally for every county.
2. I strongly support education tax credits, savings accounts, and vouchers provided equally for every Maryland and US citizen and parent.
3. This should be equally provided throughout the state and every county.
4. In my County - with the Second-largest City in Maryland - we receive the smallest amount of K-12 education funding. The state must not begin picking and choosing private programs it likes to divert tax dollars away from public schools. Pre-kindergarten is optional and not mandatory under Education Article 7-301. Although prekindergarten programs are generally positive, no movement towards universal state or institutionalization of children is healthy for families.

District 5

Justin Ready (R) - 5 - Senate

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. I would support it being diverse but oppose making pre-K mandatory or all-day.

District 6

Janice Dymowski (R) - 6 - Senate

1. Our public schools are not performing as needed. I would support alternative education that would increase the effectiveness of teachers and benefit our students.
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A

Johnny Salling (R) - 6 - Senate

1. Let's support all schools. Education for all is the answer.
2. I believe in choice for parents.
3. N/A
4. N/A

District 7

Joshua Barlow (R) - 7 - House of Delegates

1. Property taxes are paid by parents of these students, they deserve benefits also. However, the texts should be properly reviewed for proper content. Many textbooks in public schools are lacking.
2. N/A
3. Again, all pay property taxes. I attended private school (St Paul's) as an elementary pupil and recognize the value in the community as well as the importance of education alternatives.
4. I would need more information to decide on such a matter.

Michael A. Geppi (R) - 7 - House of Delegates

1. I have three children who have attended or attend public and private schools. Sending a child to a private school is a personal choice that comes with a great deal of expense that directly benefits the state and its counties. Support for textbooks is simply a recognition that all children should have equal access to learning materials.
2. The sad reality is that many schools in low income areas have completely and literally failed students. Parents should absolutely have a choice to send their children to a private school (with public dollars) when the public schools have failed. To say otherwise simply places other priorities above the needs of our children.
3. This is yet another way to recognize the extreme benefits that private schools provide to our state.
4. Prekindergarten should utilize private schools to lessen the burden on the infrastructure of public schools.

David Seman (R) - 7 - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. I support the use of nonpublic schools to expand Pre-K dependent on the availability of funding. We must continue to balance our budget and avoid future tax increases.

District 8

Ben Boehl (R) - 8 - House of Delegates

1. Parents of students in nonpublic schools pay taxes and I believe some of their money should help pay for their child's textbooks and technology. Baltimore County is expected to spend \$140 million for 133,000 new devices. We can afford to give nonpublic schools some funding for new technology.
2. I am a huge supporter of the voucher program in Maryland. In places such as Baltimore City that has failing public schools, parents should have the option of receiving a voucher for nonpublic schools. The City spends over \$15,000 on each student. Why can't we take some of that money and give it to a child to attend a better school?

3. Yes. I am a supporter of the Nonpublic Aging Schools Program. Again, many parents of students in nonpublic schools pay taxes and I believe some of their money should go into upgrading aging nonpublic schools.
4. I do not support the expansion of mandatory Pre K in public or nonpublic school. As a parent of a Pre K student, I like the idea that Pre K4 is optional and can be used to prepare children for grade school. Kindergarten at one time was a transitional year and now it is mandatory. If Pre K4 becomes mandatory, then Pre K3 becomes the new transitional period. When does it stop? And many of my district schools are overcrowded with Grades K through 5. We do not have the space to add Pre K4.

Joe Norman (R) - 8 - House of Delegates

1. If this program can be funded without raising additional revenue then I would support it.
2. I think that the kids should come first, and if they would be better served in a non-public school then the state should provide that opportunity.
3. If this program can be funded without raising additional revenue then I would support it.
4. If this program can be funded without raising additional revenue then I would support it.

District 9

Natalie Ziegler (D) - 9A - House of Delegates

1. In general I oppose using public funds for non-public schools.
2. I don't oppose scholarships unless they come from funds which otherwise would go to public schools.
3. Again, I think non-public schools need to be funded by private funds.
4. This is something I might support, but would have to see the details.

Warren E Miller (R) - 9A - House of Delegates

1. I am a longtime supporter of textbook funding for private schools.
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. I have concerns about the costs of such a program and would need to learn more about the benefits and proposed costs before I would support this.

District 10

Michael Brown (R) - 10 - House of Delegates

1. Reading is basic.
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A

Brian Marcos (R) - 10 - House of Delegates

1. I am a firm believer in investing in our children. I will not make excuses and never place anything in front of them. If I can help make a difference I will. Low-tuition nonpublic schools can be difficult to find proper funding especially technology always changing, I'll support the program.
2. If the child has warned their right to attend higher education I will support more opportunities to better their future. Many public schools are struggling and parents do not want to send their children if they can help it. With more opportunities available we will all win for giving our children higher education.
3. For lower income schools, that may not be able to keep up with maintenance I will support. It's not only for the buildings sake, but for our children and faculty safety as well
4. This will help not only the children but parents who struggle to pay for day care, especially with the children with late birthdays who must wait another year to start. Great education starts from day one, if we can help them get there any faster, we will.

District 11

Dana Stein (D) - 11 - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. I have been a strong supporter of the BOOST program.
3. N/A
4. N/A

District 12

James Howard (D) - 12 - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. As the parent of two children in private school, I still, cannot, in good conscience, use state funds to promote nonpublic schools.

District 13

Larry Pretlow II (D) - 13 - House of Delegates

1. While I believe in prioritizing the state budget to fund our public schools, I support funding in the state budget to provide textbooks and technology to assist students attending low-tuition nonpublic schools.

2. I support the expansion of options for low-income Maryland students so that parents can select the closest or more effective learning environment for their children.
3. I have publically talked about fully funded our public schools in our state budget. However, in the support of school choice for low-income Maryland student and their schools, I support the Aging Schools Program so that their learning environments are properly taken care of to support their learning.
4. As the Dad of a four-year-old and a three-year-old, I fully support this. I believe in expanding access for Pre-K to all four-year-olds across Maryland.

District 14

Robert Drozd (R) - 14 - Senate

1. Caveats: Public funding always has strings attached. Private schools serve best when they are in full control of textbook selection. I would support technology funds.
2. School choice ought not be limited strictly to the affluent. That said, it could not be a blank check to bypass public schools that demonstrably provide safe and positive academic experiences.
3. Caveat: provided public funds are a reasonable share of the maintenance and upgrade costs for demonstrably aging schools, and not the sole source or for use by schools not demonstrably aging relative to public schools in the same district. The more funding a nonpublic school seeks from public funds, the more closely it will be expected to become a public school.
4. I strongly support this effort. I would support public funds and/or resources applied to parochial or private schools to enable activities that have a clear public / community interest (e.g., pre-K, daycare operations, or playground improvements) that serve all and for which public schools do not provide sufficient alternatives.

Anne Kaiser (D) - 14 - House of Delegates

1. I fundamentally believe that public dollars should first fund public schools. However, this program has been in existence for a long while, so rather than ending it, I would rather not increase funds for it.
2. Public dollars provide for a free and appropriate education for all of Maryland's children, no matter their zip code or income bracket.
3. I fundamentally believe that public dollars should first fund public schools. However, this program has been in existence for a long while and if children are in non-public schools, the State has an interest in ensuring the infrastructure is safe and fit for purpose.
4. At the heart of the Kirwan Commission is the deep desire by all involved to move past what we have done towards what we could do. Much of the expansion of Pre-K is hampered by a simple infrastructural gap. Suggestions such as this should be embraced and evaluated.

Patricia Fenati (R) - 14 - House of Delegates

1. However, I would hope that there will be a committee to determine if the school wants the same textbooks that are used in the public schools

2. N/A
3. N/A
4. If Pre-kindergarten is provided by public schools, I believe there private schools should also get funding for this program. It should provide access to families but not a requirement for pre-Kindergarten.

District 15

David Wilson (R) - 15 - Senate

1. N/A
2. Programs in other states show a significant increase in student ranking, graduation rates, and in parent satisfaction. There are school districts in Maryland that could benefit from expanding this program.
3. This program has been a big success and should be continued.
4. Diverse delivery is a great opportunity for educational professionals to share best practices. This is a win-win for teachers, students, and parents. The additional "win" results from the more efficient use of private and public money.

Laurie Halverson (R) - 15 - House of Delegates

1. It is important for students of poverty to have options in what schools they attend. I fully support helping these low income students with state funds to assist in their learning.
2. When I was on the State Board of Education, I talked to parents of non-public schools and they very much appreciated the BOOST program. It helps parents to afford non-public school options. I was pleased to see the budget increased to \$9 million last year and was included in the Governor's FY 2019 budget. More advertisement of this program will help public school parents know this program exists.
3. This amount was included in the 2019 budget and I support assistance that reaches low income students. Improvements supported by the state also help keep our classrooms healthy and safe for students.
4. It is likely that quality pre-k programs will be expanding in Maryland & our state won't be able to do this economically without working with nonpublic pre-k programs. Capacity is an issue in public schools. To reduce overcrowding, the state will need to rely on our non-public programs which are already established. If elected, I look forward to collaborating with education leaders to coordinate the plan to become a state that is known for high-quality pre-k programs for ALL students.

Harvey Jacobs (R) - 15 - House of Delegates

1. So long as it does not reduce the MCPS operating budget.
2. N/A
3. Especially for security upgrades. Gambling revenues should be lockboxed for education.
4. So long as the methods make Common Sense.

District 16

*** Although candidates submitted survey responses, no comments were offered for District 16.

District 17

Josephine J. Wang (R) - 17 - Senate

1. It provides an opportunity for parents to make a choice for the education of their children. I fully support the non-public private education funding!
2. Often children from poor families have the ability to do amazing academic work. These children should never be deprived of the opportunity to an education which will lift them up from poverty. Case in point is Dr. Ben Carson's life.
3. I am supportive of programs that have had some success, but will view case by case in order to determine its worth.
4. Diversity in program or diversity in student population?

Dr. Esam Al-Shareffi (D) - 17 - House of Delegates

1. I support the current program, including the requirement that the books be secular in nature.
2. I support the current "BOOST" program.
3. The investment is relatively small but provides needed resources and I would support the current investment.
4. Studies have shown that prekindergarten/early access to education is associated with excellent outcomes for students. I would support any program that maximizes access for preK.

George Hernandez (R) - 17 - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. I believe 1000% in school competition and grassroots innovation in education.

District 18

Dana Beyer (D) - 18 - Senate

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A

4. I support "diverse delivery" for ages 0-3, but not for state-funded universal pre-K. I would make exception for children with disabilities.

Helga Luest (D) - 18 - House of Delegates

1. Provided the private institutions adhere to state performance and curriculum standards.
2. I support this, provided it does not exceed what the state would expend to educate the student in public school.
3. I believe these funds need to be preserved for public schools. Upgrading private schools can be addressed between the private school and the community it serves.
4. I support pre-k expansion of public education.

District 19

*** No candidates submitted survey responses for District 19

District 20

*** Although candidates submitted survey responses, no comments were offered for District 20.

District 21

Jim Rosapepe (D) - 21 - Senate

1. N/A
2. Depends on the specifics.
3. N/A
4. N/A

Lee Havis (R) - 21 - Senate

1. Any government support of non-public education involves the risk of control. Taxpayer funded curriculum and materials brings to bear government control and regulation that adversely affects the effective operation of true alternatives to public (government) schooling. In general, taxpayer funding is better channeled through such means as hybrid private means as charter schools and voucher programs, which non-public schools could hopefully participate in by choice.
2. Although I am not well informed about the operation of opportunity scholarships, I do favor the expansion of voluntary, private funding of any aid programs for children to attend K-12 programs through parents' choice. That said, where parents are too poor to choose nonpublic schools of their choice, an effective "voucher" program could

be designed that would be taxpayer funded within the parameters of suitable government regulation and management at the most local level possible.

3. Taxpayer funding for nonpublic school construction would bring restrictive controls and conditions that would be hard to make fair for the participation by all those interested. Large amounts of money would be involved for such specialized spending for building and construction. Better to employ private funding through charity contribution and foundation grants.
4. Government funded pre-k education brings control and regulation that has harmed quality and value in k-12 public schools. More affordable, quality pre-k educational programs will naturally emerge through support for free market enterprise in the field, by reducing unnecessary restrictions on staff hiring, space requirements, instruction, and curriculum. State-funding would work against quality through free market competition and choice.

James McDowell (D) - 21 - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. Need more information.
3. N/A
4. N/A

Chike Anyanwu (R) - 21 - House of Delegates

1. Parents of nonpublic school students are also tax payers, and therefore deserve the benefits of their contributions toward the government.
2. Charter schools and homeschools are good options.
3. N/A
4. Parents need to be responsible for prekindergarten education of their children.

District 22

*** Although candidates submitted survey responses, no comments were offered for District 20.

District 23

Geraldine Valentino-Smith (D) - 23A - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. I do believe there should be some limits so that we preserve a balance for private and public options.
3. I support because the amount does not adversely impact the public school capital program.
4. I support getting to a 100% Pre-K and the combined method has been what allowed Baltimore City to get to a 100% so a diverse delivery appears necessary for 100% goal.

Kathleen Kositzky Crank (R) - 23A - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. I do not believe prekindergarten programs are necessary for most children.

Tim Adams (D) - 23 - Senate

1. I support the above program after complete/total funding of all public schools then we can look at funding for other programs.
2. I support the above program after complete/total funding of all public schools then we can look at funding for other programs.
3. I support the above program after complete/total funding of all public schools then we can look at funding for other programs.
4. I support the above program after complete/total funding of all public schools then we can look at funding for other programs.

District 24

Everett D. Browning Sr (D) - 24 - Senate

1. Parents should have the right to choose the desired educational path for their children. Parents with kids in nonpublic schools pay taxes and should receive equitable support, especially when they live in an under-performing school district.
2. I believe the provisions for scholarships should be increased, in addition the scope of qualifications should be expanded; many middle-class families are sacrificing to ensure their children have access to quality education choices.
3. These funds are provide by tax payers and should be used to support the educational choices of parents, especially in areas with historically struggling school systems.
4. N/A

District 25

Maurice Culbreath (D) - 25 - House of Delegates

1. I would support a set-a-side in the Maryland budget in support of textbooks and technology for low-tuition nonpublic school if not available elsewhere, i.e. (private donations).
2. I would support the expansion of options for low-income Maryland students if the subject matter is not available in public schools.
3. I would support this initiative if in partnership with state government and private entity donations.

4. Yes; provided there is a partnership between state government set-a-side and private sponsor donations.

Dr. Stanley Onye (D) - 25 - House of Delegates

1. The goal is to train Maryland students regardless of where they attend school. Quality education and high academic standard throughout Maryland Schools should be the goal. This will afford low income residents the opportunity to acquire textbooks and technology.
2. Low income students should be given the opportunity to attend school and adequate scholarship funds to these students will enable them to attend the non-profit K-12 school of their parents' choice.
3. All students deserve good and up-to-date school building and infrastructure. This assistance will influence the local governments to understand their obligations to provide equitable services under applicable federal education programs. These programs will help the state to advance needed education reforms, to improve education outcomes, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instructions for all students regardless of where they attend school.
4. The goal is to help various communities to provide diverse delivery prekindergarten expansion. The goal is to enough prekindergarten schools that will cater to diverse groups, communities and religious institutions. This will ensure that parents will have the right and most up-to-date information to make good choices.

District 26

Sean Chao (D) - 26 - House of Delegates

1. Children that are in non-public schools should be given the same opportunities as their public school counterparts. Low-tuition non-public schools are at a disadvantage, and providing state funding to assist in procuring textbooks and technology would go a long way in bridging that gap.
2. Giving families choice in the educational attainment of their children is of utmost importance. Children from low-income families should not be barred from having the opportunity to choose non-public education simply because they cannot afford it.
3. Infrastructure needs to improve for both public and non-public schools. How can students expect to learn if they are being distracted from a dysfunctional building? Even worse, some of the older buildings are prone to hazards that directly poses a risk to the health of students. I wholeheartedly support this initiative.
4. N/A

Kris Valderrama (D) - 26 - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. I'm not familiar with this concept but sounds like something I would lean towards supporting

District 27

Philip A Parenti (R) - 27B - House of Delegates

1. As a strong advocate for school choice, I support effective programs educating our kids. The 2018 budget for text books \$6 million which is inadequate. The current budget needs upgrading and the additional spending should be through a voucher system to be paid for by the student's local jurisdiction.
2. I strongly support an "all the above" approach to education, particularly where public schools fail. Many failing schools are in poorer areas and I support expanding voucher and charter schools in those districts. There are peer reviewed studies which suggest minorities see the greatest benefit with these type programs.
3. Recently, the general assembly and the governor approved \$400 million for public school construction and renovation. Non-public schools are expected to pick up the slack from failing public schools; they should be permitted to compete for more than the \$3.5 million currently approved. I would support legislation to do so.
4. Nearly every peer reviewed study I have read regarding pre-K programs has concluded that there was no added benefit beyond the 2nd or 3rd grade. When competing for resources we want to make sure those resources are used most effectively and I would prefer we spend our hard-earned dollars elsewhere.

Mark N. Fisher (R) - 27C - House of Delegates

1. I support the textbook program. However, Annapolis is increasingly requiring private schools that receive state funds to comply with ever-increasing state education mandates. The state mandates are increasingly encroaching upon the private school experience. This is because Annapolis Progressives do not support the right of parents to exercise their freedom of educational choice.
2. Delegate Proctor (now deceased) was a strong proponent of this program. As a former school administrator in Prince George's County, Delegate Proctor recognized that not all students benefit from a "one size fits all" education system. I agree with Delegate Proctor.
3. I support the textbook program. However, Annapolis is increasingly requiring private schools that receive state funds to comply with ever-increasing state education mandates. The state mandates are increasingly encroaching upon the private school experience. This is because Annapolis Progressives do not support the right of parents to exercise their freedom of educational choice.
4. I support private Prekindergarten programs as deemed appropriate by parents. This is a decision that should be made exclusively by parents and not the State. I firmly believe that mandating State Prekindergarten programs is unwise and not financially sustainable, without a massive tax increase.

District 28

James (Jim) Crawford (R) - 28 - House of Delegates

1. Since Nonpublic schools SAVE the state and county budgets so much money, they should gladly provide extensive services and supplies.

2. Again, since Nonpublic schools SAVE the state and county budgets so much money, they should also gladly provide scholarship or vouchers. My children attended and all six grandchildren now attend Nonpublic schools while all of my tax money only supports the government, public schools.
3. In the long run, anything the state and counties can do for Nonpublic schools does NOT cost; it pays.
4. I do support state funds for pre-K use for Nonpublic schools, although I favor children spending as much time as possible at home before formal schooling begins.

District 29

Gerald "Jerry" Clark (R) - 29C - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. Believe 4 year-old children should be at home with parents.

District 30

Ron George (R) - 30 - Senate

1. I served 8 years and sponsored the BOAST Program. I support choices in education and feel our state feels private schools and homeschools and charter schools will take resources from public schools. They do not. In fact, they are saving the public schools much in funds by teaching children in nonpublic schools. Helping lower income students brings hope.
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. Pre K is fine with me but must not be required.

District 31

David L. Therrien (R) - 31B - House of Delegates

1. I am a product of the nonpublic school system for a third of my education experience. I did not attend nonpublic schools for the grades K-12 because my parents could not afford the tuition and additional costs. Parents should be able to choose where they want to send their children for an education and their tax dollars should support their choice.
2. Scholarships are a fantastic way to afford deserving children the same opportunity to excel as other children coming from families with a means to pay for it. There are many children that I would love to see have greater opportunity but the financial limitations of their family precludes those opportunities opening up for them. I would like to see every deserving child have a scholarship that needs one.

3. I believe that if tax dollars are spent on public facilities which support those families using the public school system, then tax dollars should be spent on the nonpublic school facilities for the same reason. The schools maintenance and programs offered should be managed at the state level where the communities can determine how best to utilize funding and resources.
4. No child should be relegated to a lesser educational experience in our state because of their family's financial basis. We must find ways of providing every child with an educationally rich environment as a minimum standard in which to learn.

District 32

Theodore J. Sophocleus (D) - 32 - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. Check my voting record.
4. Check my voting record.

Tim Walters (R) - 32 - House of Delegates

1. I believe in school choice and that tax dollars should follow the student.
2. I believe in school choice and that tax dollars should follow the student.
3. N/A
4. Kindergarten is preparation for grade school. I do not support expanding pre-knowledge prior to that unless a parent wants to send their child.

District 33

Tom Angelis (R) - 33 - House of Delegates

1. I strongly support all efforts made to enhance the opportunity for quality education for all students including students attending low-tuition nonpublic schools.
2. Scholarships should be made available to all students in education especially those whose parents are involved in school choice.
3. I support this amount as a minimum to be directed to these programs and if possible seek additional monies for these efforts.
4. I support all educational efforts directed at the embryonic beginnings of educational attainment.

Michael Edward Malone (R) - 33 - House of Delegates

1. Maryland should support our children's education in both public and private schools.

2. Parents need to have options to provide their child a quality education.
3. As stated before, Maryland should support both public and private schools.
4. Once again, parents should have options for their children. Public prekindergarten may not be the best option or use of funds.

Tony McConkey (R) - 33 - House of Delegates

1. Fully support the program and have worked hard to protect and expand the program as a member of the House Appropriations Committee.
2. I strongly support providing education choices for low income students.
3. N/A
4. N/A

Connor Thomas McCoy (R) - 33 - House of Delegates

1. I do not support the funding of private institutions or educational facilities with State funds.
2. I will support this if the funding for it does not come from the State.
3. I do not support the funding of private institutions or educational facilities with State funds.
4. For public schools directly funded by the state, yes. For private schools, no.

District 34

*** Although candidates submitted survey responses, no comments were offered for District 34.

District 35

*** No candidates submitted survey responses for District 35

District 36

*** Although candidates submitted survey responses, no comments were offered for District 36.

District 37

Charles Cephas (D) - 37A - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. Not sure

3. N/A
4. N/A

District 38

Edward Tinus (R) - 38C - House of Delegates

1. The private schools have grants and other resources available
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A

Mary Beth Carozza (R) - 38 - Senate

1. I voted in favor of adding \$6 million for the Nonpublic Student Textbook Program.
2. I voted in favor of adding \$7.6 million for the Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today (BOOST) program for nonpublic schools. I also support expanding funding to allow low-income students to attend nonpublic schools. I am a supporter of vouchers and school choice.
3. N/A
4. I support diverse delivery prekindergarten that would include nonpublic and public schools.

District 39

*** No candidates submitted survey responses for District 39.

District 40

Barbara A. Robinson (D) - 40 - Senate

1. Often students attend non-public schools for several reasons, they may be bullied in public schools, their skills may not be challenged, certain subjects may not be available in public schools, we must also technologically prepare our future leaders for the future.
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A

Anees Abdul-Rahim (D) - 40 - House of Delegates

1. All students in MD should have the resources they need to succeed and the distributions of funds should be equal.
2. We must support our less fortunate populations.

3. We must get education working for all of our students in MD.
4. It will enhance all of MD students.

Terrell Boston Smith (D) - 40 - House of Delegates

1. I generally believe that public monies should be used for public schools and would want those resources advancing the best in public education spending and improving struggling public schools. I understand the desire for some families to have their child(ren) attend certain specific educational settings and would look to work with all communities in the state to consider options in support of that goal.
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. While I generally believe that public monies should be used for public schools and would want those resources advancing the best in public education spending and improving struggling public schools, I would like to learn more about the program and consider it as an option for expanding early child education for broader populations of children.

Brian Murphy (D) - 40 - House of Delegates

1. Education is my keystone issue and I have detailed proposals on my site that includes funding.
2. K-12 is one of our most ignored school problems, and addressing the funding & expansion is critical.
3. I also support using scholarship money for alternative advanced education such as trade schools. College is not for everyone.
4. I support numerous initiatives to increase economic, cultural, racial, and religious diversity thorough our district.

Westley West (D) - 40 - House of Delegates

1. I believe that our children deserve to have the best books, and the greatest technology as tools for them to succeed. I stand in support with the funding if it has good impact to schools, and our students.
2. Our children are deserving of the best education, and the support of local lawmakers to help them to become all that they want to be. I do support the expansion of options for low-income Maryland students through the provision of scholarships to enable them to attend the nonpublic K-12 school of their parents' choice.
3. Our children should be able to learn in good, stable, and safe environments. I do support the nonpublic schools that qualify for the funding.
4. Prekindergarten services should be provided to four-year-olds, and those who have disadvantaged backgrounds. I will support legislation that has our children's best interest.

District 41

J.D. Merrill (D) - 41 - Senate

1. N/A

2. I believe that every student deserves access to an excellent education. There are many families in our district that feel they must send their children to non-public schools because of deeply held religious beliefs. Many of these families face similar economic challenges to families all over Baltimore. The state should continue to assist these families in getting the education that they believe their children need.
3. N/A
4. N/A

Walter J. Horton (D) - 41 - House of Delegates

1. I consider charter school as nonpublic providing books and other material to support these schools should be done with state dollars.
2. Again if nonpublic charter school should be able to secure scholarships.
3. Yes I support state assistance, if liens are place on the school to protect the funds.
4. Yes I support and would like to recommend that we start with 3 year old kids.

Sean Stinnett (D) - 41 - House of Delegates

1. I'm in support of funding to assist students attending low-tuition nonpublic schools because there is a pool of students who require special education that public schools are not equipped to accommodate.
2. I'm in support of expansion of options for low-income Maryland students because there is a pool of students who require special education that public schools are not equipped to accommodate.
3. N/A
4. N/A

District 42

Chris West (R) - 42 - Senate

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. I'm not convinced that the State should undertake universal pre-K education, but if a decision is made to go forward, we should explore non-public options.

Nino Mangione (R) - 42B - House of Delegates

1. Strongly Support
2. Strongly Support
3. Support provided good business practices are implemented to get best value and service
4. Strongly Support

District 43

Kelly Nicholas Fox (D) - 43 - House of Delegates

1. I support programs and funding that will provide textbooks not only for these types of schools but for public school also. Students should have the latest technology and textbooks to that support our changing society and focus.
2. Although I favor public education and reform strategies for to improve education in that setting, I do understand that parents should have a choice in sending their children to non-public schools. Providing additional funding, like scholarships will enable low income students and parents to access all types of educational programs.
3. Several school districts are in need of infrastructure maintenance which will include security upgrades for learning environments. I do believe that providing funding will ultimately have a significant impact on student achievement. Safe schools, new buildings and additional resources are something that all students should have.
4. Universal kindergarten should be offered for all students. Studies have shown that providing early education programs increase student achievement in later grades. Maryland should invest in this.

District 44

*** No candidates submitted survey responses for District 44.

District 45

Rita Church (D) - 45 - House of Delegates

1. I do support legislation that would call for educational material being part of school curriculum such as new text books instead of ditto sheets. We must remember the term curriculum refers to the lesson and academic content taught in a school or specific course of program.
2. I do support legislation because by reviewing school policies, working with students to create plans, finding scholarship opportunities, rewarding good grades, and advocating for equal opportunity, these organizations work hard to ensure that those with low-income backgrounds won't be looked over or treated unfairly.
3. I do support legislation that consider program that Provide funds to be distributed as grants to nonpublic schools in Maryland for expenditures eligible under the Aging Schools Program established in §5-206 of the Education Article, including school security improvements. The Maryland General Assembly is providing \$3.5 million in fiscal 2016 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016) in grants for renovations and improvements to existing nonpublic school buildings.
5. I would support legislation for early childhood education because it has shown to be beneficial to the child early development. In 2002, the Maryland General Assembly enacted Chapter 288, the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act. The Act established new primary state education aid formulas based on adequacy cost studies. These adequacy cost studies – conducted in 2000 and 2001 under the purview of the Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and Excellence.

District 46

Brooke Lierman (D) - 46 - House of Delegates

1. In general, I oppose providing support to nonpublic schools that discriminate based on disability, sexual orientation, or other characteristics. Because we are not yet fully funding our public schools, I have serious concerns about spending money on nonpublic schools.
2. I am opposed to voucher programs for many reasons, including that research shows very mixed or negative outcomes for students who use vouchers. I also do not believe we should be using tax dollars to send children to religious schools. Although I attended Catholic parochial schools as a child, I do not think that someone should subsidize that choice. I have concerns that under BOOST, my tax dollars are subsidizing the teaching of creationism or other non-fact-based curricula.
3. Because many bond dollars go to nonpublic institutions, I do not have any concerns about the aging schools program.
4. In order to efficiently expand preK to all four-year-olds, we will need to use a diverse delivery system.

Nicholas Wentworth (R) - 46 - House of Delegates

1. N/A
2. N/A
3. I support all these policies and believe a stronger relationship between public and nonpublic schools would be beneficial to both systems. However, if nonpublic schools are going to be beneficiaries of state funds, then they must be equal partners with public schools in ensuring the education of all Maryland children. (Continued on next comment)
4. (Continued from above comment) Thus, the expectation would be that students struggling in a public school environment would have the opportunity to attend the private school best suited to ministering to the child's unique character regardless of the family's ability to pay tuition fees.

District 47

Fred Price Jr (R) - 47 - Senate

1. What's the fiscal note?
2. I believe the dollars should follow the child.
3. Need more information.
4. I don't know what a diverse delivery is and what is the cost?

END