2022 Maryland Candidate Survey
State Legislative District 17

The Maryland Council for American Private Education (CAPE) advocates for the interests of the 125,000-plus nonpublic students in Maryland and their families. We invited all gubernatorial and General Assembly candidates to respond to a brief candidate survey ("support" or "oppose"), and provide a brief comment on each answer, on critical issues for non-public schools in Maryland. All of the survey responses and election links are online at www.mdnonpubs.org.

Election Day is Nov. 8 (early voting Oct. 27-Nov. 3)
NOTE: Some districts have new boundaries due to redistricting

Response key: **S:** agree; **O:** disagree; - : no response | D: Democrat | R: Republican
Full questions and written comments follow the chart below.

District	Office	Party	Candidate	Non-public School Aid	Public $ are Only for Pub Schools	Education Scholarships	BOOST	Capital Dollars
	Governor	R	Dan Cox	S	O	S	S	S
		D	Wes Moore	Did not submit a response				
17	Senator	D	Cheryl C. Kagan	Did not submit a response				
17	Senator	R	Scott Gershman					
17	Delegate	D	Kumar P. Barve	Did not submit a response				
17	Delegate	D	Julie Palakovich Carr					
17	Delegate	D	Joe Vogel					
17	Delegate	R	Helene F. Meister	Did not submit a response				
17	Delegate	R	Donald "DP" Patti	S	O	S	S	S

MD CAPE does not endorse or oppose any candidate and no inference of endorsement or opposition should be concluded as a result of the information here.

2022 Candidate Questions | *(Open-ended responses follow)*

1. **Aid to Nonpublic Schools**
   Generally speaking, do you support or oppose state dollars going to nonprofit nonpublic schools to support educating the children who attend?

2. **"Public Dollars"**
   Do you support or oppose the statement "Public dollars are only for public schools"?

3. **Education Opportunity Scholarships**
   Do you support or oppose the statement "Parents should have the right to utilize the state dollars allocated for their child's education at whatever school they choose for them, whether public, private or charter"?

4. **BOOST Scholarship Program**
   Do you support or oppose funding for Maryland's existing BOOST Scholarship Program, which provides scholarships to low-income students to be used to attend nonpublic schools, at its current levels for new students?

5. **Capital Dollars for Private Schools**
   Do you support or oppose state support for infrastructure or security upgrades and maintenance being allocated to nonpublic schools in the state budget?

Open-ended Candidate Answers

District 17 State Delegate Candidates

Donald "DP" Patti (R)

Q1: Aid to nonpublic schools: A key part of my Reinvest 10 strategy for Maryland is to reinvest 2% of the existing state budget for educational choice, in the form of vouchers and charter schools.

Q2: Public dollars: Public dollars are for educating everyone's children. As long as minimum curriculum standards are met and students graduate proficient in core subjects, per-student funding should be usable for public school, private schools and even reimbursement of expenses for home-schooled children.

Q3: Educational scholarships: Our children have been fortunate to have been educated in private schools their entire lives. All children should have the same access to the quality education.

Q4: BOOST: The key to solving many of Baltimore's problems lay in providing children access to a solid education. That is most easily achieved through grant programs like BOOST.

Q5: Capital dollars: I do NOT support state funding for general infrastructure improvements to private schools and instead believe funding should come through tuition vouchers. I DO support funding for security hardening private schools alongside public schools, particularly in light of the rapid increase in mass shooting incidents at schools. If only public schools undergo upgrades, private schools will become the softer targets and be much more vulnerable to attack.

Gubernatorial Candidates

Dan Cox (R)

Q1: Nonpublic school aid: I support the dollars following the children by parental choice.

Q4: BOOST: And I would expand this program.