



# 2022 Maryland Candidate Survey

## State Legislative District 19

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](http://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				
19	Senator	D	Ben Kramer	Did not submit a response				
19	Senator	R	Anita Mpambara Cox	Did not submit a response				
19	Delegate	D	Charlotte Crutchfield	Did not submit a response				
19	Delegate	D	Bonnie Cullison	O	S	O	S	S
19	Delegate	D	Vaughn Stewart	Did not submit a response				
19	Delegate	R	Frank Nice	S	S	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 19 State Delegate Candidates

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#### Bonnie Cullison (D)

Q1: I will continue to support what is currently in the MD budget, including the ability to benefit from volume purchasing and tech materials.

Q2: While I generally support this statement, there are instances which I think require greater consideration. I am interested in looking into how we can better support special education needs and transportation needs.

Q3: I strongly support the rights of parents to choose not to send their children to public schools. However, Public schools exist in order to provide equitable opportunities for all students, regardless of religion, race, sexual orientation and economic status and those students being successful is a benefit to the entire community. Therefore any decrease in those funds ultimately has a negative impact on all residents.

Q4: I have voted for the BOOST program in the budget in my tenure.

Q5: I have sponsored and advocated for capital grants to nonpublic schools for infrastructure.

#### Frank Nice (R)

Q1: Aid to nonpublic schools: The greatest resource that our country, our state, our county, and especially our district has is our families. It does not matter what political party our family belongs, what religion our family practices, from what ethnic ancestry our family comes, or what color our family is. We know that we need strong families. Parents and family members know what is best for their family to thrive by working hard to make it so. We do not need elected officials telling us how to raise our families; we need elected leaders to ask us what they can do to help us once again have strong families. We need elected officials who will support children's growth in the family. Families should be supported by family-friendly policies that are implemented by elected leaders based on what parents and family leaders deem best for their families. Families that choose charter schools or nonprofit, or nonpublic schools should be provide support they believe is best for their children.

Q2: Public dollars: I do not know of anywhere in our constitutional documents that states that "Public dollars are only for public schools."

Q3: Educational scholarships: Once again, I repeat myself as this is a family decision and not an elected official's decision. The greatest resource that our country, our state, our county, and especially our district has is our families. It does not matter what political party our family belongs, what religion our family practices, from what ethnic ancestry our family comes, or what color our family is. We know that we need strong families. Parents and family members know what is best for their family to thrive by working hard to make it so. We do not need elected officials telling us how to raise our families; we need elected leaders to ask us what they can do to help us once again have strong families. We need elected officials who will support children's growth in the family.

Q4: BOOST: Since the BOOST Scholarship Program is a family-friendly policy, I support it, no matter what the levels for new students are as long as they are sufficient to make it happen.

Q5: Capital dollars: Once again, this is a family-friendly policy, so I support it.

### Gubernatorial Candidates

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#### 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.