

# NJPSA Questionnaire for NJ Legislative Candidates of the 2023 GENERAL ELECTION

Thank you for your dedication to public service and for your interest in what is on the minds of the members of the NJ Principals and Supervisors Association (NJPSA).

NJPSA represents over 7,000 active school leaders in New Jersey's public schools. Our members serve in the positions of principal, assistant principal, director, and supervisor. We are dedicated to providing a high quality education to every student in New Jersey schools.

The following questionnaire is designed for you to share your perspectives on issues of concern to the NJPSA membership. NJPSA will publish your responses on our special NJPSA Election Center website in October to inform our members in their Election 2023 decision-making process.

Thank you for taking the time to share your perspectives with us!

Candidate's Name: \*

Raya Arbiol

Office Sought: \*

☒ NJ General Assembly

☐ NJ State Senate

☐ Other: .....

Party: \*



Democrat



Republican



Independant



Other: .....

Legislative District #: \*

12



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**Safe Schools**

School principals and supervisors are directly responsible for creating a safe, secure, and supportive learning environment for our students. A student's feeling of safety and security is at risk where school buildings are not up to health and safety standards, where the risk of gun violence can threaten our schools, and where school buildings are not fully equipped with current security staffing and equipment.

**If elected to the State Legislature, what will you do to address school safety and security in the broadest sense, not only to upgrade the physical structures and equipment in our schools, but also to safeguard our students from the threat of gun violence or other threats to their safety?**

If elected to the State Legislature, my commitment to school safety and security will encompass a comprehensive approach that goes beyond physical infrastructure improvements. Here's what I'll do to ensure the safety of our students:

**Support Evidence-Based Policies:** I will advocate for evidence-based policies that address the root causes of violence, including gun violence, in our communities. This includes supporting funding for research into effective violence prevention strategies, such as community-based intervention programs.

**Gun Violence Prevention:** I will support and promote common-sense gun control measures, including universal background checks, closing the gun show loophole, and implementing waiting periods for firearm purchases. We must also address the issue of illegal firearms trafficking and work to keep firearms out of the hands of those who pose a threat to themselves or others.

**Mental Health Services:** School safety involves addressing the mental health of our students. I will work to increase access to mental health services in schools, ensuring that students who may be struggling with mental health issues receive the support they need.

**Collaboration with Law Enforcement:** Building strong partnerships between schools and local law enforcement agencies is crucial. I will encourage collaboration and information sharing to respond effectively to potential threats.

Emergency Preparedness: I will support legislation that ensures schools have up-to-date emergency response plans and conduct regular drills. This preparedness is essential to protect students and staff in case of emergencies.

Community Engagement: Engaging the community is key to preventing violence. I will work to establish programs that foster communication between schools, parents, and local organizations to create a safe and supportive environment for our students.

Infrastructure Improvements: While safety goes beyond infrastructure, I will also support funding for necessary physical upgrades to schools, such as improved access control, surveillance systems, and enhanced building security.

Anti-Bullying and Conflict Resolution Programs: Creating a positive school climate is essential for safety. I will support anti-bullying programs and conflict resolution initiatives to address issues before they escalate.

Youth and After-School Programs: Investing in youth programs, both in and out of school, can provide constructive outlets for students and reduce the risk of them engaging in risky behaviors.

Legislation and Advocacy: I will actively advocate for legislative measures aimed at protecting our students and collaborate with fellow legislators to craft effective, evidence-based policies.

Addressing school safety is a multifaceted challenge that requires a holistic approach. I am committed to working collaboratively with stakeholders, educators, parents, and students to ensure that our schools are secure environments that foster learning and growth while protecting our most precious resource—our children.

## Student Mental Health

Even before the pandemic, school leaders grew concerned with the rising mental health needs of students. Post-pandemic, students have returned to school with a broad range of needs including mental wellness and academic needs. A recent CDC study found that the number of young adults with depression more than *doubled* from 2011 to 2021. School leaders and their staff do all they can to provide appropriate student support, but the inconsistent range of services and current case overload on service providers, mental health professionals, and outside mental health services is a great barrier. This school year, the Murphy Administration is launching a new network system called NJ4S to provide preventative and referral service options for schools. This, as yet untried, system is designed to replace the highly effective School-Based Youth Services Program, which provides direct funding to some school districts to offer mental health and related services directly in school.

**As a state legislator, how will you prioritize, support, and fund student mental health issues in our schools? Will you advocate for continued funding for existing School-Based Youth Services programs in next year's budget discussions, as well as expansion for these tried-and-true SBYS programs?**

As a state legislator, I will make student mental health a top priority in our schools, recognizing that the well-being of our students is fundamental to their success. Here's how I plan to prioritize, support, and fund student mental health issues:

**Advocate for Funding:** I will advocate for robust funding for student mental health services in our state budget. This includes supporting existing School-Based Youth Services (SBYS) programs, which have proven effective in addressing mental health challenges among students. I will actively participate in budget discussions to ensure that these vital programs receive the funding they need.

**Expand SBYS Programs:** Building on the success of SBYS programs, I will advocate for their expansion to reach more schools and communities. These programs provide critical counseling, crisis intervention, and support services to students, helping them navigate the challenges they face. Expanding SBYS programs will ensure that more students have access to these valuable resources.

**Collaboration and Partnerships:** I will work to foster collaboration between schools, mental health professionals, and community organizations. By forming strong partnerships, we can leverage resources and expertise to provide comprehensive mental health services to students.

**Early Intervention:** Early intervention is key to addressing mental health issues. I will support initiatives that identify students at risk and provide them with the necessary support and resources. This includes

training educators and staff to recognize signs of mental health struggles.

**Anti-Stigma Campaigns:** I will support awareness campaigns that aim to reduce the stigma associated with mental health. By fostering a culture of understanding and acceptance, we can encourage students to seek help when needed without fear of judgment.

**Access to Telehealth:** In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, telehealth has become an important tool for providing mental health services. I will work to ensure that students have access to telehealth options, especially in underserved areas where in-person services may be limited.

**Legislation for Student Mental Health:** I will actively sponsor and support legislation that addresses student mental health needs. This includes laws that require mental health education in schools, increased training for educators, and improved access to mental health professionals.

**Parent and Community Involvement:** Engaging parents and the community is crucial. I will support initiatives that involve parents in their children's mental health care and encourage community support networks.

**Evaluation and Accountability:** I will advocate for regular evaluations of student mental health programs to ensure they are effective and accountable. Data-driven decisions will guide our efforts to continuously improve these services.

**Crisis Response Plans:** I will work with schools to develop and implement crisis response plans that address mental health emergencies, providing immediate support to students in distress.

Student mental health is a pressing issue, and I am committed to taking concrete steps to support and fund these critical services. Our students' well-being is paramount, and by prioritizing their mental health, we can create a positive and nurturing learning environment that allows them to thrive.

## Staffing Shortages/Educator Pipeline

One of the top concerns of NJPSA members is fully staffing their schools in all school roles, including teachers. Once again, the pandemic exacerbated a rising problem in our schools - the dwindling number of young people entering the education profession as teachers, counselors, and other critical school staffing positions. The State Legislature has been working to address barriers to the teaching profession within the licensing code and teacher preparation system.

**If elected/reelected, what new ideas will you bring to this issue to ensure that our schools are fully staffed with well-qualified and prepared teachers and education service professionals?**

If elected, I am committed to bringing fresh ideas and innovative approaches to ensure that our schools are fully staffed with well-qualified and prepared teachers and education service professionals. Here are some of the new ideas and strategies I plan to implement:

**Teacher Recruitment and Retention Incentives:** I will advocate for the development of incentives to attract and retain talented educators. This may include student loan forgiveness programs, housing assistance, and professional development opportunities to help teachers grow in their careers.

**Alternative Certification Programs:** Exploring alternative pathways to teacher certification can bring a diverse range of professionals into the education field. I will support initiatives that make it easier for mid-career professionals to transition into teaching, especially in subjects with teacher shortages.

**Teacher Residency Programs:** Residency programs offer aspiring educators the opportunity to work alongside experienced teachers while earning their certification. I will advocate for the expansion of such programs, which have shown success in preparing teachers for the classroom.

**Mentorship and Support:** Providing ongoing mentorship and support for new teachers is essential. I will work to establish mentorship programs that pair experienced educators with those who are new to the profession, helping them navigate the challenges of their early years.

**Investment in Professional Development:** Continuous learning is key to effective teaching. I will push for increased funding for professional development opportunities that keep educators up-to-date with the latest teaching methods and technologies.

**Diversity in the Teaching Workforce:** Our teaching staff should reflect the diversity of our student body. I will support initiatives to recruit and retain teachers from underrepresented communities to ensure that all students have role models who look like them in the classroom.

**Digital Education Resources:** The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of digital resources in education. I will explore ways to equip educators with the tools and training needed to effectively use technology in the classroom.

**Community Partnerships:** Building partnerships with local businesses and organizations can provide valuable resources for schools. I will encourage collaboration between schools and the community to enhance educational opportunities for students.

**Addressing Teacher Burnout:** Teacher burnout is a real concern. I will advocate for policies that address workload issues, reduce administrative burdens, and promote teacher well-being.

**Equitable Distribution of Educators:** Some communities face challenges in attracting and retaining teachers. I will work to ensure that every community has access to highly qualified educators by addressing disparities in teacher distribution.

**Student-Teacher Ratios:** Lowering student-teacher ratios can improve the quality of education. I will explore ways to reduce class sizes, particularly in schools that are struggling academically.

**Teacher Voice in Policy:** Teachers should have a say in education policy decisions. I will actively seek input from educators and collaborate with them to shape policies that affect their profession.

**Data-Driven Hiring:** Utilizing data analytics can help identify staffing needs and predict teacher shortages. I will support the use of data to inform hiring decisions and resource allocation.

By implementing these new ideas and working collaboratively with educators, parents, and stakeholders, we can strengthen our education system and ensure that our schools are staffed with highly qualified and dedicated professionals who are prepared to provide our students with a top-notch education.



## Social Media Impacts on Students

The U.S. Surgeon General recently reported on the “profound risk of harm” that social media poses to the mental health and well-being of children and adolescents. Recent tragedies in New Jersey, including the suicide of several young students, amplifies this danger. Social media frequently plays a persistent, negative role in bullying incidents both at and away from school. Principals face impenetrable roadblocks placed by social media companies in addressing these issues.

**If elected/reelected, how will you work with NJPSA to develop legislation that protects the online safety, privacy, and welfare of our students; requires social media companies to develop safer products for student use; and requires social media companies to work with schools and law enforcement in cases where students are harmed by social media use?**

If elected, I am committed to working closely with NJPSA (New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association) to develop legislation that prioritizes the online safety, privacy, and welfare of our students. Here's how I plan to collaborate with NJPSA and other stakeholders to address these critical issues:

**Engagement and Dialogue:** I will establish an open line of communication with NJPSA and other educational organizations to understand their concerns and insights regarding online safety and student privacy.

**Research and Best Practices:** I will support initiatives to research best practices in online safety and privacy protection for students. It's essential that our legislation is informed by the latest developments in this rapidly evolving field.

**Legislative Proposals:** Working closely with NJPSA, I will draft legislation that addresses the specific needs and concerns of New Jersey's students and educators. This legislation will aim to set clear guidelines for online safety, protect student privacy, and establish procedures for addressing online harm.

**Collaboration with Social Media Companies:** I will advocate for partnerships between social media companies and educational institutions to create safer online environments for students. This collaboration should include the development of age-appropriate settings, content filters, and reporting mechanisms for online platforms.

**Education and Awareness:** Legislation alone is not enough. I will work with NJPSA to develop educational programs that teach students, parents, and educators about online safety and responsible digital citizenship.

**Reporting Mechanisms:** To address cases where students are harmed by social media use, I will support the establishment of clear reporting mechanisms for schools, parents, and students to report online incidents. Social media companies should be required to respond promptly to these reports and take appropriate action.

**Legal Protections:** Ensuring that students and schools have legal protections when online incidents occur is crucial. I will advocate for legislation that holds social media companies accountable for their platforms' impact on students and provides a legal framework for seeking remedies in cases of harm.

**Privacy Protection:** Protecting student data and privacy is paramount. I will support legislation that imposes strict safeguards on the collection and use of student data by online platforms.

**Law Enforcement Collaboration:** When necessary, social media companies should collaborate with schools and law enforcement agencies to address online threats or incidents of harm to students. I will work to ensure that such collaboration is facilitated by legislation.

**Regular Evaluation and Updates:** Online safety is an evolving challenge. I will advocate for legislation that requires regular evaluations of our policies and their effectiveness, with updates and improvements as needed.

**Public Input:** I believe in transparency and public input. I will seek feedback from parents, educators, students, and the broader community to ensure that our legislative efforts align with their expectations and needs.

**Bipartisan Collaboration:** I am committed to working across the aisle to garner bipartisan support for legislation that prioritizes student safety and privacy. This is an issue that transcends party lines and demands a united effort.

By collaborating with NJPSA and taking these proactive steps, I aim to create a legislative framework that effectively protects our students' online safety, privacy, and welfare while promoting responsible and informed online behavior. Together, we can ensure that New Jersey's students have a safe and secure digital learning environment.

## Learning and High Stakes Testing

NJPSA believes that student assessment is an integral part of the instructional process that is inextricably linked to a viable curriculum and strong instructional practice. Constructive and well-designed assessments provide on-going, actionable, and timely information to students, parents, and educators concerning what students know, understand, and can do in relation to our learning standards. Currently, New Jersey students are assessed in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science via standardized tests according to federal and state requirements during their elementary, middle and high school careers.

NJPSA believes that New Jersey must streamline its testing requirements to avoid over-testing, duplicative testing, and tests that students do not consider relevant to their futures, especially at the high school level.

**What role do you believe standardized testing should play in a student's academic life? How would you assist educators in streamlining current requirements and eliminating unnecessary testing?**

I believe that standardized testing should play a balanced and supportive role in a student's academic life. While assessments can provide valuable insights into a student's progress and help identify areas that may need additional attention, they should not dominate the educational experience or put undue stress on students and educators. Here is how I would assist educators in streamlining current requirements and eliminating unnecessary testing:

**Assessment Review:** I would work with educators, parents, and education experts to conduct a comprehensive review of the current standardized testing requirements. This review would aim to identify redundant or unnecessary tests and assess their impact on students and teachers.

**Aligning Testing with Curriculum:** Standardized tests should align closely with the curriculum and the educational goals of the classroom. I would support efforts to ensure that assessments measure what students are actually learning in their courses.

**Reducing High-Stakes Testing:** High-stakes testing can create undue stress and may not accurately reflect a student's abilities. I would advocate for reducing the emphasis on high-stakes testing in educational accountability systems.

**Alternative Assessment Methods:** Exploring alternative assessment methods, such as project-based assessments, portfolios, and teacher evaluations, can provide a more holistic view of a student's abilities. I would support pilot programs to test the effectiveness of these alternatives.

**Minimizing Test Prep:** Excessive test preparation can detract from valuable instructional time. I would work to minimize the need for extensive test preparation by ensuring that students are receiving a high-quality education aligned with the curriculum.

**Reducing Over-Testing:** Students should not be subjected to an excessive number of tests. I would support efforts to limit the number of standardized tests required each year and ensure that testing time is reasonable.

**Empowering Local Control:** Education is not one-size-fits-all, and decisions about testing should reflect the unique needs and priorities of individual school districts. I would advocate for greater flexibility at the local level to determine testing requirements.

**Regular Evaluation:** It's important to regularly evaluate the impact of standardized testing on students, educators, and the overall education system. I would support periodic assessments to determine whether changes in testing requirements are achieving their intended goals.

**Teacher Input:** Teachers are on the front lines of education and can provide valuable insights into the impact of standardized testing. I would actively seek input from educators and involve them in the decision-making process.

**Advocating for Federal and State Reform:** Standardized testing requirements are often influenced by federal and state policies. I would work collaboratively with federal and state lawmakers to advocate for reforms that reduce unnecessary testing burdens on students and teachers.

**Parent and Community Engagement:** Engaging parents and the broader community in discussions about standardized testing can lead to more informed decisions. I would support initiatives to involve parents and community members in these conversations.

**Ensuring Accountability:** While reducing unnecessary testing, it's essential to maintain accountability in education. I would support a balanced approach that emphasizes both student growth and a well-rounded education.

In summary, I believe that standardized testing should serve as a tool for improvement rather than a sole determinant of a student's academic success. By working collaboratively with educators, parents, and education experts, we can streamline testing requirements, reduce unnecessary burdens, and ensure that assessments support, rather than hinder, the educational experience.

## Learning and High Stakes Testing

Will you vote in support of [S-3308/A-4639](#), legislation that would eliminate New Jersey's high school graduation exit test, a requirement that serves as a potential barrier to graduation for many students?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know/prefer not to say
- ☐ Other: .....

## School Funding

New Jersey schools are reliant on state, federal, and local funding to support our programs and services. Many districts are facing higher costs to operate, staffing shortages with negative fiscal impacts, health care cost increases, and new costs resulting from health and safety needs post-pandemic. Federal funding has assisted districts in meeting some of these challenges, but those funds must be used by 2024. Additionally, some districts have faced significant additional cuts in state funding due to changes in the law which redistributed state aid (S-2).

**How will you work with NJPSA and other education stakeholders to address these funding concerns moving forward?**

I am committed to working closely with NJPSA and other education stakeholders to address funding concerns in our educational system. Here are some of the key steps I would take:

Open Dialogue: I believe in open and transparent communication. I would actively engage with NJPSA and other education stakeholders in a dialogue to understand their concerns and perspectives. Regular meetings, town halls, and feedback sessions would be essential to maintaining an open line of

communication.

**Collaborative Decision-Making:** Education funding is a complex issue that requires collaboration and input from various stakeholders. I would work to build consensus and involve all relevant parties in the decision-making process. This includes educators, parents, administrators, and community members.

**Data-Driven Solutions:** To address funding concerns effectively, it's crucial to rely on data and research. I would support initiatives to gather comprehensive data on education funding, its distribution, and its impact on student outcomes. Evidence-based solutions should guide our decisions.

**Advocacy for Adequate Funding:** If funding shortfalls are identified, I would actively advocate for adequate funding for our schools. This may involve working with colleagues in the legislature to propose and pass legislation that ensures schools receive the resources they need.

**Equity and Fairness:** I am deeply committed to promoting equity in education. I would collaborate with NJPSA and other stakeholders to assess funding distribution to ensure that it is fair and equitable, addressing disparities among schools and districts.

**Grant Opportunities:** I would explore grant opportunities at the state and federal levels that can supplement education funding. This may involve identifying available grants, assisting schools in applying for them, and advocating for grant programs that benefit our community.

**Long-Term Planning:** Education funding should not be subject to short-term fluctuations. I would work on long-term planning to create stable and predictable funding mechanisms for our schools. This could involve multi-year budgeting and strategic planning.

**Community Engagement:** Engaging the broader community is vital. I would organize forums and discussions that involve parents, students, and community members in decisions related to education funding. Their voices are crucial in shaping our priorities.

**Legislative Collaboration:** Building relationships with fellow legislators is essential to advancing education funding solutions. I would work across the aisle to find common ground and build bipartisan support for education initiatives.

**Advocacy at the State Level:** In addition to working within the legislature, I would engage in advocacy efforts at the state level to ensure that education funding remains a top priority for our state government.

**My approach to addressing education funding concerns is rooted in collaboration, data-driven decision-making, and a strong commitment to equitable and adequate funding for all schools. Together with NJPSA and other stakeholders, I believe we can make meaningful progress in ensuring that every student in our state has access to a high-quality education.**



## School Funding

Would you vote to eliminate or modify the 2% tax levy cap on school budgets in certain situations?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know/prefer not to say

☒ Other:

I would carefully consider any proposal to eliminate or modify the 2% tax levy cap on school budgets, taking into account the specific circumstances and needs of our schools. The tax levy cap has been put in place to provide fiscal discipline and protect taxpayers from rapid increases in property taxes. However, I also understand that there may be situations where schools face significant financial challenges and need flexibility to maintain educational quality. My approach would be to evaluate each proposal on a case-by-case basis, considering factors such as:

**Fiscal Health of Schools:** I would assess the financial condition of the school district in question. If a district is facing severe financial constraints that could negatively impact the quality of education, I would be more inclined to support modifications to the tax levy cap.

**Community Input:** I believe in the importance of community input. I would actively seek feedback from local residents, parents, educators, and school administrators to understand their perspectives on the proposed changes.

**Accountability Measures:** Any modification to the tax levy cap should include accountability measures to ensure that additional funds are used efficiently and effectively to benefit students and improve educational outcomes.

**Temporary vs. Permanent Changes:** I would consider whether the proposed changes are temporary or permanent. Temporary modifications in response to specific crises or challenges may be more justifiable than permanent changes.

**Equity:** It's essential to assess whether changes to the tax levy cap would have equitable impacts on different communities within the district.

**Alternatives:** I would explore alternative sources of funding or cost-saving measures before considering changes to the tax levy cap.

**Balancing Fiscal Responsibility:** While supporting our schools is vital, I would also balance fiscal responsibility and consider the impact on taxpayers. In summary, I would approach proposals to modify the 2% tax levy cap on school budgets with a commitment to fiscal responsibility, accountability, and a focus on maintaining or enhancing the quality of education for our students. My decision would be based on a thorough evaluation of the specific circumstances and input from the community.



## School Funding

How would you work to address the funding needs of the S-2 districts since the fiscal world has significantly changed since that legislation was enacted in 2018?

Addressing the funding needs of S-2 districts is essential for ensuring educational equity and quality across all New Jersey schools. Since the fiscal landscape has evolved since the enactment of S-2 in 2018, I would approach this issue with a commitment to reviewing and updating the legislation to better meet the needs of S-2 districts. Here are some steps I would take:

**Comprehensive Assessment:** I would work with education experts, school administrators, teachers, parents, and community stakeholders to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the funding needs of S-2 districts. This assessment would take into account changes in student demographics, inflation, and any unforeseen fiscal challenges.

**Data-Driven Solutions:** Any adjustments to S-2 funding should be data-driven. I would ensure that funding formulas are based on accurate and up-to-date data regarding student needs, district resources, and educational costs.

**Equity and Fairness:** My goal would be to promote equity in education. I would work to ensure that funding adjustments do not disproportionately benefit one group of districts at the expense of others. It's crucial that all districts, whether S-2 or not, have access to the resources needed for student success.

**Transparency:** I believe in transparency in government. I would advocate for clear, transparent reporting mechanisms that allow the public to understand how education funding is allocated and spent.

**Engaging Stakeholders:** I would engage with S-2 districts directly to understand their unique challenges and needs. This would involve regular meetings with district leaders, educators, and community members.

**Advocating for Additional Resources:** If necessary, I would advocate for additional state resources to support S-2 districts. This could include seeking federal grants, exploring public-private partnerships, or finding other sources of funding.

**Regular Review:** Education funding is an ongoing process. I would support regular reviews of funding formulas to ensure they remain effective and responsive to changing needs.

**Legislative Updates:** If it becomes clear that legislative updates are necessary to better address the fiscal challenges of S-2 districts, I would work with my colleagues in the legislature to propose and pass relevant legislation.

In summary, my approach to addressing the funding needs of S-2 districts would involve collaboration, data-driven decision-making, and a commitment to equity and transparency. I recognize that educational funding is a complex issue, and I would prioritize working closely with all stakeholders to find solutions that benefit New Jersey students.

## The Right to Read – Book Bans

NJPSA is proud of New Jersey's strong student learning standards which have been highly rated across the country. A key component of all our learning standards is the goal of developing critical thinking and the analysis of multiple resources. Our members work hard to support student learning by working with our teachers to provide a rich curriculum aligned to these standards and the use of high-quality books and materials as support. We also partner with our parents to be part of their child's learning process. NJPSA is concerned about the rising incidence of demands to ban certain books from school libraries and the curriculum. While parents can surely direct the reading choices of their children, they should not be able to direct what resources and books are available to other students.

**Will you commit to protecting a student's right to read and learn according to New Jersey's student learning standards (NJSLS) by opposing any legislation designed to infringe on those student rights? As a state leader, how can you assist educators in communicating this message to parents and community stakeholders?**

Absolutely, I commit to protecting a student's right to read and learn according to New Jersey's student learning standards (NJSLS). It is essential that our education system upholds these standards to provide a high-quality education to all students and prepare them for future success.

As a state leader, I can assist educators in communicating this message to parents and community stakeholders through the following steps:

**Engagement and Communication:** I will actively engage with educators, school administrators, parents, and community stakeholders to understand their concerns and perspectives regarding NJSLS. Clear and open communication is key to addressing any potential misconceptions or apprehensions.

**Information Campaigns:** I will support and participate in information campaigns that educate parents and the community about the importance of NJSLS in ensuring that all students receive a well-rounded education that meets rigorous standards.

Community Meetings: Hosting or participating in community meetings to discuss NJSLS and address any concerns or questions from parents and stakeholders directly.

Advocacy: I will advocate for the value of NJSLS and the positive impact it has on student learning outcomes. This advocacy will extend to discussions within the legislature to ensure that policies align with the best interests of students.

Resource Allocation: I will work to ensure that educators have the necessary resources, training, and support to effectively implement NJSLS in the classroom. Adequate resources are essential to the successful implementation of educational standards.

Transparency: I will champion transparency in education by promoting easy access to information about NJSLS, curriculum materials, and assessments. Transparency builds trust and allows parents to understand the educational goals and standards in place.

Collaboration: Collaborating with educators' associations, parent-teacher organizations, and other stakeholders to foster a shared understanding of the importance of NJSLS and its role in ensuring a high-quality education for every child.

In summary, my commitment to protecting students' right to learn according to NJSLS is unwavering. I will actively work to communicate the benefits and significance of these standards to parents and community stakeholders, ensuring that all students have access to a quality education that prepares them for the future.

## Pension Funding

In recent years, New Jersey has honored its obligations to make the full actuarially required annual payment to the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) under a schedule or repayment established by state law.

**Will you continue to honor this obligation moving forward and fight to ensure that the public pension system for school employees is fully funded in next year's State Budget Process?**



Yes



No



I don't know/prefer not to say



Other:

.....

## The End.

### Thank you for sharing your perspectives with NJPSA members statewide!

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you or your candidacy?

I want to share with all of you that I am deeply rooted in education. My mother was a dedicated public school teacher who spent her life educating our children. I understand the immense value of our education system and the critical role our educators play in shaping the future.

With that understanding, I am committed to fighting for our schools, our teachers, and most importantly, our students. Their success is at the forefront of my agenda. I believe in adequately funding our schools, providing teachers with the resources they need, and ensuring that every child in New Jersey has access to a high-quality education, regardless of their ZIP code.

My mother's passion for education has been a guiding light in my life, and I carry that same commitment to ensuring that our schools are places of growth, opportunity, and success for every student. I am honored to have the opportunity to serve our community, and I promise to be a strong advocate for education in the State Legislature.

Thank you for considering me as your representative, and I look forward to working together to make New Jersey's education system the best it can be.



This form was created inside of NJPSA/FEA.

# Google Forms