

At Large Council Candidate

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AnitaBonds2022	
On a scale of 1 to 100: Do you agree with this statement? The primary public agency responsible for the socio-emotional problems of children and youth caused and exacerbated by the pandemic should be the DCPS public schools.	3
Teacher turnover in DC's public schools are among the highest in the nation, and the pandemic has made teaching even more challenging. What do you think can be done to address teacher turnover in DCPS?	
Given the pandemic that has made educator evaluation very difficult, evaluations can pause for 2 years to also allow the development of tools that would incorporate input from teachers and parents as well as research on how surrounding jurisdictions are approaching this critical aspect of our public education system.	
The pandemic has highlighted the need to provide equitable student access to technology as part of a 21st-century education. What will you do to ensure DCPS supports comprehensive technology planning and funding to support student learning?	
Every student needs electronic devices for their studies. Assuring that budget and resources are available and distributed on day one of the new school calendar is what councilmembers can do. I am committed to that responsibility that includes assuring that resources are ordered, available per school and classroom on opening school day.	
DCPS school communities have concerns with the quality of building repair and maintenance including HVAC systems in older as well as newly modernized buildings. How can the Council address their concerns with DCPS facilities operations and maintenance?	
Routine and regularly schedule review if all mechanical systems in each school must continue to be the norm annually. For facilities with aging systems these mechanicals should be closely monitored and evaluated monthly. Repairs or replacement of these parts would be in order as soon as changes in the system are discovered even if the "brake down" has not yet occurred.	
The financial outlook for the District has been impacted by the public health crisis, previous years of strong economic growth, and federal Rescue Plan funds. What do you think the three greatest fiscal challenges for D.C. public education will be over the next four years?	
As the educational ratings increase. Providing adequate classroom space will be one problem that I am looking forward to observing. Also teacher retention may become more difficult unless teacher salaries increase. At the Council. I expect to increase funding for homeownership for teachers and our educational personnel. Having educators living the communities they serve can be a huge game changer.	

Check the statement below that best describes your position:	
I think D.C. policies should prioritize the DCPS system of by-right neighborhood schools.	X
I think D.C. policies should prioritize parental choice.	
Explain:	
On a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being the strongest How strongly do you agree with this statement: The most effective system to ensure equitable quality for students and communities is a system of well-planned and supported DCPS feeder schools of right.	1
On a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being the strongest, how strongly do you agree with this statement: PK4 students should be able to enroll by-right into their neighborhood DCPS elementary schools.	1
Will you support convening a student assignment and boundary review process to be completed by 2023?	Yes
Should DCPS have budget protections because of its responsibilities as the school system-of-right?	Yes
The DC Council transferred responsibility for school security in DCPS schools from MPD back to DCPS; DCPS will control its security guard contract this year; and MPD School Resource Officers will be reduced. How should the Council determine whether students are more safe and secure?	
I am expecting that data collected regarding the number of and frequency of disruptive incidents will inform about the value of this decision. Moreover, surveys with teachers and students should be conducted periodically for feedback on the benefits of the decision. Because the removal of officers from within the schools will take time to be embraced by all, other measures may be needed to augment this important decision.	
Do you support any changes in the way the District of Columbia governs public education?	Yes
What governance reforms would you support for DCPS?	
A DCPS education policy board, appointed by the Mayor, confirmed by Council, with authority to hire and fire the chancellor.	Would consider
An elected DCPS education policy board of education, independent of the Mayor.	Would consider
Other ideas you would consider or support for DCPS:	
What governance reforms would you support for the State Board of Education and the Office of the State Superintendent (OSSE)?	
State Board of Education with authority to hire and fire the State Superintendent of Education.	Would oppose
State Board of Education with authority to initiate policy--not just approve it--in areas it already has jurisdiction over.	Would support
Other ideas you would consider or support for SBOE and/or OSSE:	
What governance changes would you consider or support for the D.C. Council?	
An Education Committee for the Council of the District of Columbia.	Would support

Council control over the level of charter enrollment and the number of charter schools.	Would support
Other changes you would consider or support D.C. Council governance of public education:	
What governance reforms would you support for the Public Charter School Board (PCSB)?	
An elected Public Charter School Board.	Would support
Public Charter School Board appointed by Ward Councilmembers and 3 at-large members appointed by the Mayor.	Would consider
Other reforms you would consider or support for PCSB:	