

Ward 3 Candidates for the DC Council

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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.	25
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?	
I believe teacher salaries should be increased. We should provide access to more inclusive teacher training to better provide for students with learning differences. We must streamline the performance review process for teachers and listen to their feedback on what works or does not work. DC should offer incentive benefits like transportation stipend and access to affordable housing.	
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?	
I would support DCPS's increased budget request for more trained technology teachers, curriculum development, age appropriate software and equipment. I would also encourage DCPS to engage in partnership with our local technology vendors to partner with our schools to offer program mentorships that will create a pathway for students to skill map their studies to technology jobs as a career.	
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?	
Work with DCPS and DGS to receive regular updates on the facilities master plan for a report on maintenance priorities and open request. Request a report on open work orders and close out documentation. Do an annual walk through of schools to gain a clear understanding of maintenance priorities and unique issues in a given building. Connect DCPS with sister agency programs like RiverSmart with DOEE.	
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?	
1. Maintenance of buildings and grounds 2. Teacher retention due to lower salary levels. 3. Additional learning resources for student instruction and support services.	
Check on 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: A by-right of neighborhood school would offer balance throughout the DCPS system. Neighborhood schools create connections and investment in the neighborhood. Thriving neighborhood schools contribute to a ped and bike friendly community.	
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
Comments, if any: I agree with this process. However, this is not under the preview of the DC Council.	
Should DCPS have budget protections because of its responsibilities as the school system-of-right?	Yes
Comments: DCPS is responsible for educating any student by-right. Therefore the budget should support that obligation.	
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?	
During the oversight process, request updates on campus safety and security. During contract approval process, listen to concerns and feedback from parents and schools.	
Do you support any changes in the way the District of Columbia governs public education?	No
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 oppose
An elected DCPS education policy board of education, independent of the Mayor.	Would oppose
Other ideas you would consider or support for DCPS:	
I support the current governance structure.	
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 oppose
Other ideas you would consider or support for SBOE and/or OSSE:	
I support the current governance structure.	

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 oppose
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 oppose
Public Charter School Board appointed by Ward Councilmembers and 3 at-large members appointed by the Mayor.	Would oppose
Other reforms you would consider or support for PCSB:	