Public Schools First NC
Education Position Questionnaire
2020

What education positions are supported by Public Schools First NC?

- Public Schools First NC is a **statewide nonpartisan, nonprofit organization focused solely on Pre-K –12 public education issues**.
- We **collaborate** with parents, students, teachers, business leaders, civic leaders, and communities across North Carolina to **advocate** for an effective public education system that will prepare each child for productive citizenship.
- We believe that **strong public schools** are essential for strengthening our economy and maintaining the vitality of our communities.
- Our goals are to **educate** and **inform** North Carolinians about the critical issues that affect our schools, our teachers, and our students and to **engage** all stakeholders in supporting a quality public education system that serves all of our students.

What is the Public Schools First NC Education Position Questionnaire?

- **PSFNC** is a nonpartisan, statewide organization; we understand that sound public policy supporting public education must be enacted and funded by all elected officials.
- **PSFNC** advocates for enactment of specific policies and resource levels that are critically important for public education in NC.
- **PSFNC** supports the analysis of policies, legislation, funding, and outcomes to educate and inform citizens regarding issues impacting public education in NC.
- **PSFNC** supports the power of well-informed citizens to advocate for education policies that reflect their values and positions when engaging with candidates and/or elected officials.
- Accordingly, **PSFNC** supports the dissemination of information on all elected officials and candidates' positions regarding public education policies and funding.
- **To inform citizens, we offer candidates for public office the opportunity to respond to the Public Schools First NC Education Position Questionnaire consisting of 10 simple position statements.**
- **PSFNC will share those responses on our website, social media platforms, and other media channels.**

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Why Take the Public Schools First NC Education Position Questionnaire?

- **Citizens need to understand candidates' and elected officials' positions on the critical issue of public education**
  - Candidates' responses help citizens understand how well-aligned candidates' positions, priorities, and commitments are with their own
  - Clear, published positions enable accountability for those who enact public policy and determine funding and resource levels
  - Citizens and constituents can contact elected officials based upon whether and how they choose to respond, and how they demonstrate commitment to their supported positions
- The **Public Schools First NC Education Position Questionnaire** is **non-partisan**
  - The Questionnaire reflects policy positions of elected officials and candidates, not their political parties
  - Elected officials and candidates should **only** state the office they hold or seek, **not** their party
  - All elected officials and candidates for public office are invited to respond
- The **Public Schools First NC Education Position Questionnaire** is **simple and easy to answer**
  - It includes **10 statements**, and requires only **YES or NO** responses
  - Responses may vary on specific statements; responders may select YES or NO to all, or some combination
  - Responders may include optional, additional comments to provide more context for their positions
- **PSFNC will publish the responses, if submitted timely, from elected officials or candidates** for NC House, NC Senate, NC statewide offices that directly impact education, and county commissioners from our 100 counties

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Item #	No	Yes	MY POSITION FOR NC (*OR FOR MY DISTRICT if I'm running for local office*)
1		X	**I SUPPORT** raising per pupil funding for all public schools to at least the national average.
2		X	**I SUPPORT** raising pay for public school teachers to at least the national average and reinstating master's and other relevant advanced degree pay. Furthermore, **I SUPPORT** additional pay for teachers who achieve nationally recognized certifications and pay for teachers who take on additional duties and responsibilities (such as coaching or tutoring after school).
3		X	**I SUPPORT** increasing the numbers of school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, and school nurses for all public schools to at least the recommended national ratios per pupil.
4		X	**I SUPPORT** providing full public funding for pre-K for all eligible children in North Carolina.
5		X	**I SUPPORT** providing full funding for K-5 enhancement teachers for art, music, physical education, and world languages.

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Item #	No	Yes	MY POSITION FOR NC (*OR FOR MY DISTRICT if I'm running for local office*)
6		X	**I SUPPORT** increasing per pupil funding for textbooks and other instructional resources (digital and hard copies), supplies, etc. to at least pre-recession levels.
7		X	**I SUPPORT** programs that have been demonstrated to reduce the achievement gaps for economically disadvantaged students, including programs to improve public school equity, integration, and inclusion.
8		X	**I SUPPORT** fair and equitable evaluation of teachers and schools using a variety of metrics for student and teacher performance, not just standardized test scores.
9		X	**I SUPPORT** phasing out school vouchers for private schools, and ensuring that existing private schools receiving public voucher funds meet the same accountability and performance standards as public schools.
10		X	**I SUPPORT** a moratorium on new charter schools until stronger accountability standards and better authorization mechanisms are implemented; including empowering local school boards with the ability to create charters and keep them under their governance.

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Item #	Please feel free to add comments to explain or elaborate on your positions on specific items, if desired *(OPTIONAL)*

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Item #	CONTINUED…Please feel free to add comments to explain or elaborate on your positions on specific items, if desired *(OPTIONAL)*

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My Signature	Terri LeGrand
Date	April 21, 2020
My Printed Full Name	Terri LeGrand
I Hold Or Seek The Office Of	North Carolina Senate District 31

THANK YOU for sharing your positions on these public education issues with NC citizens!

Please add your legibly printed name and the elected office you hold or for which you are running (including county or district number if applicable, but do not include your political party). You can save this document with your name in the file name and email to us or you can print and mail to us at the address below.

Public Schools First NC
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Raleigh NC 27627

Email: info@publicschoolsfirstnc.org

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Public Schools First NC Education Position Questionnaire responses will be shared via our website, newsletters, Facebook, Twitter, and local NC news sources.

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www.PublicSchoolsFirstNC.org