



2026 Board of Education Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate First Name:

Candidate Last Name:

District:

Campaign Email Address:

Phone Number (for use on day of interview):

I confirm that the responses provided here are my official positions in seeking state office and I understand that MCEA reserves the right to share my responses with members and interested parties.

Candidate Signature:

Candidate Signature:

Date:

Candidates: In order to be considered for a recommendation, you must indicate your response to each of the questions. **Clarifications, explanations, and other information may be attached, but please be certain to indicate clearly the question(s) to which you refer.** Please return your completed and signed questionnaire to MCEA.

1. Why are you running for this position? What personal attributes, characteristics, and experiences make you the right candidate for this position?
2. The BOE will be making significant boundary changes. As a BOE Member what would be your priorities in making these decisions?
3. The BOE will be making significant program changes (e.g. county wide magnet programs, consortia, regional program models). As a BOE Member what would be your priorities in making these decisions?
4. Too much teaching time is currently spent on standardized testing in MCPS. What is your plan to bring MCPS in compliance with the 2017 Less Testing, More Learning Act (HB461)? How do you see standardized testing interacting with the grading and reporting policy?
5. Do you support employee Paid Family Leave policies for professional, supporting services, and administrative staff? Please explain your position.

6. Districts all over the country are working to recruit and retain diverse educators. In MCPS there is considerable room for improvement in addressing educator recruitment and retention. How will you address critical concerns with educator recruitment and retention?
7. State your view of the contract negotiations process between the Board of Education and MCEA. What do you see as your role in that process?
8. What makes you the ideal candidate to facilitate and build relationships with the County Council that prioritize fully funding the budget?
9. What is your understanding of the nature of the relationship between the Board and Superintendent? How do you foresee yourself working within this structure?
10. What was your reaction to Mahmoud v. Taylor? Given the decision, how would you plan to operationalize parental opt-out to minimize the impact on educators?

11. Given the growing diversity of Montgomery County students, how will you support our special populations? Please address each of the following specifically:
- Emerging Multilingual Learners (EML)
 - Special Education
 - Low Socioeconomic
12. How will you use your position to protect Montgomery County educators, students, and residents in the face of threats from the federal government and ICE, and given the recent rollback of rights for immigrants, the LGBTQIA community, and other marginalized communities?
13. As a Board member, would you support and advocate for lower class sizes? Do you believe that the Board's class size guidelines should be required, or merely advisory? Please explain your response.
14. As a member of the Board of Education, how do you balance honoring ratified contracts with other priorities, especially in tight fiscal times?

15. During the budget presentation, Dr. Taylor referenced a 2024 infrastructure task force report stating that there is a \$385.5 million capital investment backlog of repairs needed to the HVAC systems alone. Additionally, the MCEA/MCPS Collective Bargaining Agreement states “all future classrooms and gymnasiums shall be air-conditioned and all existing non-air-conditioned classrooms and gymnasiums shall be air-conditioned as soon as funds permit.” What steps will you take to secure this needed funding?
16. What are your thoughts about the MCPS practice of continually contracting out public school services to private employees (e.g. Speech Language Services, Mental Health services)? What changes to MCPS policies and practices would you recommend to build in-system resources that meet professional recommended ratios?
17. What will you do to remove barriers and protect student access to an inclusive and representative curriculum in MCPS?
18. The Apple Ballot has been successful due to strong brand recognition and the trust the community has in educators to know what our schools and communities need. The strength of the Apple Ballot is diminished when candidates and elected officials on the Apple Ballot endorse non-Apple Ballot candidates. Recognizing the importance of educator voice, especially in education-specific elections, will you refrain from endorsing non-Apple Ballot Board of Education candidates?

19. Please share an overview of your campaign, including your key endorsements, fundraising, campaign plan, and why you believe you will be a competitive candidate?

Space for additional comments (please reference question number):