

#47

**COMPLETE**

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**Q1**

Candidate Information

Name	<b>Barbara Rachelson</b>
Email Address	<b>barbara.rachelson@gmail.com</b>
Phone Number	<b>802-373-0846</b>

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**Q2**

Office you are seeking (e.g. House, Senate, Governor):

House

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**Q3**

Legislative District (e.g. Chittenden, Senate, Addison-1):

Chittenden 6-6

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**Q4**

**Yes**

Incumbent (select one):

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**Q5**

**Yes**

Would you be interested in visiting a school in your district and meeting with local educators?

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**Q6**

**Agree**

On resisting austerity, do you

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**Q7**

**Yes**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on resisting austerity?

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**Q8**

Anything you want to add on resisting austerity?

Educating our youth is one of the most critical jobs, that we cannot afford to not do well, or to put teachers, children and the community at risk.

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Page 3

**Q9**

**Agree**

On institutional racism, do you

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**Q10**

Anything you want to add on institutional racism?

Totally agreed and in Burlington we have seen in addition to racist policies ones that particularly impact people who have mental health diagnoses.

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Page 4

**Q11**

**Agree**

On community schools, do you

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**Q12**

**Yes**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation establishing community schools?

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**Q13**

Anything you want to add on community schools?

I am not sure I would be a lead sponsor but I would cosponsor and work to support these efforts, especially as a social worker, who has seen the type of collaboration that is possible and the results that can be achieved.

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**Q14**

**Agree**

On universal school meals, do you

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**Q15**

**Yes**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on universal school meals?

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**Q16**

Anything you want to add on universal school meals?

I am proud to have supported the school meals bill that was signed into law in 2013.

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**Q17**

**Agree**

On student and staff safety, do you

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**Q18**

**No**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on student and staff safety?

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**Q19**

Anything you want to add on student and staff safety?

I would certainly support these efforts.

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**Q20**

**Don't Know**

On para-educators, do you

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**Q21**

**No**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on para-educators?

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**Q22**

Anything you want to add on para-educators?

I am concerned that there be some bottom lines statewide on credentials/experience of paraeducators and appropriate job functions. My understand (from back when I was on the education committee) is that there is quite a range of how local schools use paras. In some cases, they are used in functions where we need trained special educators providing the services. I would need more information before I decided to support the legislation.

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**Q23**

**Agree**

On school finance, do you

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**Q24**

**No**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on school finance?

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**Q25**

Anything you want to add on school finance?

I strongly agree that the current system is not working, sustainable or fair. I also strongly support efforts to cut back on administrative costs (not teachers) that come with having so many supervisory unions, so that we can assure that more of the money we allocate is going to the teaching and other services that directly impact the students.

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**Q26**

**Agree**

On public funded and provided Pre-K, do you

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**Q27**

**Yes**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on public funded and provided Pre-K?

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**Q28**

Anything you want to add on public funded and provided Pre-K?

I worked on the original bill and was vocal from the beginning that the part time law is both disadvantageous to the children and also difficult considering the number of working parents in our state.

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**Q29**

**Agree**

On health reform, do you

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**Q30**

**No**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on health care reform?

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**Q31**

Anything you want to add on health care reform?

Health care is a human right. Currently, we are not getting the outcomes we should have and are paying way too much! We must look at this area of spending and do something.

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**Q32**

**Agree**

On the right to strike, do you

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**Q33**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Anything you want to add on the right to strike?

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**Q34**

**Agree**

On teachers rights and professional growth, do you

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**Q35**

**No**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on teachers right and professional growth?

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**Q36**

Anything you want to add on teachers right and professional growth?

Again, I would support such legislation.

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**Q37**

**Don't Know**

On retirement security for teachers, do you

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**Q38**

Anything you want to add on retirement security for teachers?

I strongly agree that we should be paying some budget surplus towards the retirement and fully funding it each year. I don't agree with ANY budget surplus should be going to retirement, as there could be equally compelling surplus spending/savings items that we should consider.

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**Q39**

**Agree**

On good cause employment, do you

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**Q40**

**No**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on good cause employment?

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**Q41**

Anything you want to add on good cause employment?

Important issue to look at.

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