

#26

COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Elizabeth Burrows
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Q2

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

House of Representatives Seat

Q3

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

Windsor-1

Q4

No

Incumbent (select one):

Q5

No

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

Page 2

Q6

Don't Know

On resisting austerity, do you

Q7

No

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on resisting austerity?

Q8

Anything you want to add on resisting austerity?

One of the things I think is exciting about running right now is that it is a chance to be creative in the way things are financed, in a way that was not allowed before. Austerity is a very very very very last resort.

Page 3

Q9

Agree

On institutional racism, do you

Q10

Anything you want to add on institutional racism?

I have been working to dismantle institutional racism for several years now, and will continue to do so, whether I am elected to the House of Representatives or not. I plan to hold the agencies and associations accountable for the promises they have made in the last few weeks to support anti-racist measures that they have not actively supported in the past.

Page 4

Q11

Agree

On community schools, do you

Q12

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation establishing community schools?

Q13

Anything you want to add on community schools?

Totally-- but it should include funding for some of those services, including mental health services, that is offloaded completely from the Ed fund. Mental health has become such a huge burden and obstacle for schools, it is ballooning and will continue to do so, and the need will not go away just because we don't pay for it. But I think it should be complementary to education, and not the financial drag that it has become. It's not fair to anyone involved. Not teachers, not communities, not schools, not families, and, least of all, not students, who are proven to be unable to learn if they are in need of mental health services.

Page 5

Q14

Don't Know

On universal school meals, do you

Q15

No

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on universal school meals?

Q16

Anything you want to add on universal school meals?

I am for universal school meals, but not at the cost of meal quality. Can't we have it all? I don't think there's any point of providing poor-quality food, just for the sake of providing for everyone. I think there's room to provide the right thing, but there's a lot of grey area in there.

Page 6

Q17

Agree

On student and staff safety, do you

Q18

Yes

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

Q19

Anything you want to add on student and staff safety?

I think all staff members should receive this training, not just teachers, and I think the same about implicit bias training. I don't know why it seems to be such a sticking point in contract negotiations, I really don't, but it seems like teachers and staff don't want the burden of attending the training. What to do? It seems like the only way to get it to everyone is to mandate it.

Page 7

Q20

Disagree

On para-educators, do you

Q21

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on para-educators?

Q22

Anything you want to add on para-educators?

I think para-educators should receive training that would enable them to better function within the classroom. I think they, too, should receive implicit bias training. I believe if the training was provided, even if it was required, that there might be more buy-in as a result of it, and then longer time spent in some of those positions-- but the contract problem again. So I am actually in favor of some legislation regarding para-educators.

Page 8

Q23

Don't Know

On school finance, do you

Q24

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on school finance?

Q25

Anything you want to add on school finance?

I want to make sure that the recommendations of the AoE per pupil weighting study of 2019 are put into legislation. I believe that is step one. I would like to make sure that any programs off-loaded from the General Fund, onto the Ed Fund, have funds accompanying them. That's step two. And I would like to take a serious look at how the rest is funded; if de-coupling from real estate makes sense, then let's do it. If there is a combination somewhere in there, let's find it.

Page 9

Q26

Agree

On public funded and provided Pre-K, do you

Q27

Yes

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

Q28

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

Watch the film No Small Matter, and you will see where I stand on public Pre-K.

Page 10

Q29

Agree

On health reform, do you

Q30

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on health care reform?

Q31

Anything you want to add on health care reform?

I can't believe we are going to somehow get through this pandemic without returning to the idea of universal healthcare. It is incredible to me. What bigger example could we conceive of for why universal healthcare is needed?

Page 11

Q32

Agree

On the right to strike, do you

Q33

Anything you want to add on the right to strike?

I have been at that negotiating table, and I believe in collective bargaining, and I believe in working hard to get to a resolution. I believe in the right to strike as a labor right, but I worry that there is a lot of unnecessary misinformation that takes priority over the burden of finding compromise. Compromise is hard, requires skill, and is not made by posturing. It is not an easy process, and I worry that the posturing has really gotten in the way of true compromise these days. So I support the actual right to strike, but I think it is used too often as a fall-back threat.

Page 12

Q34

Agree

On teachers rights and professional growth, do you

Q35

No

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

Q36

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

I do not understand the "unwritten" rules here, but I have seen some very inhumane outcomes of not allowing teachers rights and professional growth. I genuinely do not understand how or why it is allowed.

Page 13

Q37

Don't Know

On retirement security for teachers, do you

Q38

Respondent skipped this question

Anything you want to add on retirement security for teachers?

Page 14

Q39

Don't Know

On good cause employment, do you

Q40

No

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on good cause employment?

Q41

Anything you want to add on good cause employment?

I am in the middle of a conflict in this regard as I write this, and so I am unable to comment on it.
