

#43

**COMPLETE**

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**Q1**

Candidate Information

Name	<b>Kate Donnally</b>
Email Address	<b>katedonnallyvt@gmail.com</b>
Phone Number	<b>802-777-8148</b>

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**Q2**

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

Vermont House of Representatives

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**Q3**

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

Lamoille-2

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**Q4**

**No**

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**

**No**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on resisting austerity?

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**Q8**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Anything you want to add on resisting austerity?

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**Q9**

**Agree**

On institutional racism, do you

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**Q10**

Anything you want to add on institutional racism?

I am currently on the steering committee of the Racial Equity Alliance of Lamoille (REAL) and co-chair the REAL Schools coalition where we have worked to build partnerships with the Lamoille North and South school districts. We have also actively worked to build a youth coalition that spans the county. Antiracism work is something that I am deeply passionate about and I am happy to speak more about this and advocate for this work anywhere, anytime.

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**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?

As a social worker and a therapist that specializes in trauma, I have a deep professional and personal understanding of the impact of oppression and adverse life events on not only the child, but their family, the school community, and their community as a whole. We must find ways to reduce barriers to access for essential mental and physical health services for children and families. Effectively assessing and supporting the healing of children has a massive ripple effect on public health outcomes overall as the long-term impact of untreated childhood trauma is a driving factor in every chronic disease that impacts the health of our neighbors and the health of the overall medical system. The long-term human and financial cost of under and untreated childhood trauma is beyond measure; preventative measures would be a significant step in saving lives and reigning in the unsustainable costs of healthcare and insurance.

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**Q14** **Agree**

On universal school meals, do you

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**Q15** **No**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on universal school meals?

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**Q16** **Respondent skipped this question**

Anything you want to add on universal school meals?

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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?

While I absolutely believe that staff should receive training in working with students who engage in challenging and unsafe behaviors when they become dysregulated; it is my belief that teachers and administrators should have greater access to mental health professionals in schools who specialize in this work. We must continue to adopt mechanisms and strategies that incentivize schools to partner with mental health professionals and engage in fully integrative care.

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**Q20** **Agree**

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** **Respondent skipped this question**

Anything you want to add on para-educators?

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**Q23**

**Don't Know**

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**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Anything you want to add on school finance?

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**Q26**

**Don't Know**

On public funded and provided Pre-K, do you

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**Q27**

**No**

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 fully agree that universal pre-k should be expanded and, ideally, should be offered through the local public school system. However, I am unsure from the wording of this question if the NEA is proposing that pre-k \*only\* be offered through the public school and that mechanisms would no longer be in place for parents to pursue pre-k options in other certified programs. I would need more clarity on this specific policy recommendation before I could fully agree. Our son, who just finished kindergarten, did not have the option of pre-k at our local public school for a variety of reasons and we used the voucher to engage in a fantastic certified program in the community. This in-home program had only six students and was run by a highly skilled provider. I am hesitant to support a policy that would make this type of educational setting unavailable to parents and children if it best met the unique needs of their child. But I fully support policy initiatives that work to universally expand pre-k and ensure equitable access to high-quality assessment and learning opportunities.

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**Q29**

**Agree**

On health reform, do you

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**Q30**

**Yes**

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on health care reform?

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**Q31**

Respondent skipped this question

Anything you want to add on health care reform?

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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**

Don't Know

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**

Respondent skipped this question

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

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**Q37**

Don't Know

On retirement security for teachers, do you

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**Q38**

Respondent skipped this question

Anything you want to add on retirement security for teachers?

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**Q39**

Don't Know

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**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Anything you want to add on good cause employment?

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