

#71

COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Kate MacLean
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Q2

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

House

Q3

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

Orange-1

Q4

No

Incumbent (select one):

Q5

Yes

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

Page 2

Q6

Agree

On resisting austerity, do you

Q7

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on resisting austerity?

Q8

Respondent skipped this question

Anything you want to add on resisting austerity?

Page 3

Q9

Agree

On institutional racism, do you

Q10

Anything you want to add on institutional racism?

The issue has been widely, and historically dismissed in Vermont and in much of New England as a problem that plagues the South and not the North. Now, we are faced with appalling facts, like that Blacks only make up 1% of our VT population but account for nearly 10% of our Covid19 cases. We must work, actively, thoughtfully, and earnestly to make anti-racism a keystone of our legislative work.

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?

I was unfamiliar with the concept of such schools until reading this. But now that I am learning more I am very compelled by the concept. The school I send my children to, Chelsea Public School, is a lynchpin of the community. Even when the doors were closed in March the teachers and staff worked harder than they ever had to make sure the students and their families were safe, well fed, and connected with on both an educational and emotional level. Many of these small Vermont schools are situated in very rural communities far from easy access to the types of social services you mention above. It would make easy sense to make such things available to them, and to their families using the school as a natural center.

Page 5

Q14

Agree

On universal school meals, do you

Q15

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on universal school meals?

Q16

Anything you want to add on universal school meals?

This goes beyond a matter of preparing a child to learn well, this is a human rights issue of ensuring that no child goes hungry in our community. The pandemic highlighted how many children in our schools depend on these meals and it also underscored how many additional children who are not yet in the school system also depend on food assistance. One of the biggest barriers, as I see it, to food security, is the stigma that exists in asking for help. It is vital that we work to dismantle this stigma in every possible way.

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 would want to make sure this is done in thoughtful, proven, deescalating ways. Too often we see children, as young as kindergarten, acting in violent manners and responded to with anger and ineffectual punishment. We need training that can protect the student, protect the staff and teachers, and ultimately work in a holistic manner to help everyone involved in both short and long term.

Page 7

Q20

Agree

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?

While my own children do not use a para-educator, I have seen first hand how vital they are to the children who benefit from them. Any support and decisions about their best use would benefit greatly from a local decision as opposed to a statewide one.

Page 8

Q23

Agree

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 am so grateful to support this position and would work diligently to sponsor such a bill. The pain of the property tax on our rural communities is working directly against our communal interests for the school. Pitting those with children against those without, even though we all agree in the importance of educating our kids.

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?

When I say that education is my priority, I always take the time to ensure that people understand I mean pre-K right through local, community based opportunities for higher education. I would fully support this expansion.

Page 10

Q29

Agree

On health reform, do you

Q30

Yes

Do you wish to sponsor legislation on health care reform?

Q31

Respondent skipped this question

Anything you want to add on health care reform?

Page 11

Q32

Agree

On the right to strike, do you

Q33

Anything you want to add on the right to strike?

The right to strike is a fundamental part of being an American.

Page 12

Q34

Don't Know

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 would need to know more about this. As a mother of two young children who grow deeply attached and dependent on their teachers I would initially be against the idea of making teacher's leaving easier and faster. But I would love to learn more about this from the educator's perspective.

Page 13

Q37

Don't Know

On retirement security for teachers, do you

Q38

Anything you want to add on retirement security for teachers?

I need more information about the current commitments and the underfunding mentioned to make an informed decision. But as the daughter of a retired school teacher I fully support the concept of support retirement security for teachers.

Page 14

Q39

Agree

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 would want to sponsor legislation only if we were equally committed to making Vermont both a good place to work AND a good place to do business. Both are imperative to attracting more Vermonters. I would err on the side of supporting the workers of course as I recognize the inherent class dynamics that are at play here.
