

KIDS VOTING DURHAM

2018 DURHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME:

DISTRICT RUNNING FOR:

1. What are two specific reasons you want to serve as a leader of Durham?

The first reason I would like to serve as a leader in Durham is because I love Durham, and I have spent 30 years serving families and children in the Durham community. The second reason why I would like to serve as a leader in this community is because I have been under the leadership of some of the best leaders in Durham, and they have taught me how to be a great leader. I am equipped, prepared, and ready for this opportunity to serve.

2. Given recent and past school shootings, students are concerned about their safety. How would you improve staff and student training and what other measures would you take? How would you balance safety with student privacy and other rights?

I am very concerned about the safety of our students because of the past school shootings. I am a strong advocate for education and trainings in all fields. I have spent over 30 years in the education system either as a student or a teacher. Therefore, I would advocate for more funds on a federal, state, and local level specifically designated for school and safety training. Also, I would use more technology, internal staff, SRO officers, probation employees, counselors, retired officers, and other community partners. It is imperative that we absolutely maintain the confidentiality of students personal and private information.

3. Often, there are racial and other disparities in suspensions in Durham Public Schools (DPS). How would you support the new Equity Affairs department and other ways to address this? How would you fund these efforts?

Equity and fairness for all children is extremely important to me. If I am elected, I will support the equity and fairness department 100%. I strongly support the equity and fairness department because I am an African American female who have experience first hand injustices and inequities, and I do not want any parents, students, and teachers to experience any injustices.

4. How do you think Durham Public Schools can better talk about consent and reproductive health and safety with their students? Do you think the current education program DPS offers is adequate?

I believe this discussion should be a collaboration between parents, students, and staff. I believe parents should have a voice in the decision-making process.

5. How do you plan to find and keep effective and qualified teachers, and what role do you see students playing in that evaluation? I believe in order to keep effective and qualified teachers we need to provide the best salaries, create the best working conditions, listen to teachers, provide

professional development/higher education opportunities, and create an environment where parents and the community come together to support them.

I would love for the students to have an opportunity to evaluate their teachers.

6. What issues influenced your decision to run for school board this year?

The issues that influenced my decision to run for school board was the declined in our test scores in 17 of our schools, and the fact that to many of our children are graduating from high school reading on a third and fourth grade reading level. I believe that we can do better in Durham.

7. If you could have any super power, what would it be and why?

If I could have any super power it would be Wonder Woman. I love wonder woman's strength and power. I would try to be strong for all children and assist them through their challenging situations. I want the best for all students. You deserve the best!



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