

Candidate for Minnesota House District 13A

Jul 9, 2026

Yes/No questions

1. Have you visited a public school in your district in the past year?

No

Q2. ESP living wage: Will you support legislation to ensure that all education support professionals earn a living wage of at least \$25 an hour?

Yes

Q3. Due to significantly below-market compensation for teachers, most school districts in Minnesota are having difficulty filling teaching jobs, and state colleges report a continued decline in the number of graduates from teacher preparation programs. Would you support creating a minimum salary for all licensed Minnesota teachers of \$60,000 a year and an \$80,000 minimum salary for licensed teachers with 10 years of experience and a master's degree?

Yes

Q4. Will you support increasing state funding to ensure the financial sustainability of educator public pension funds, so the cost doesn't come out of workers' pockets?

Yes

Q5. Will you support improving teacher pensions, including an unreduced career rule, lowering penalties, and increasing cost of living adjustments for retirees?

Yes

Q6. Do you support the creation of and funding for the Educator Group Insurance Program (EGIP), which would give educators access to a mandatory statewide health insurance pool, just like other state workers?

Yes

Q7. Do you support dedicated funding for unemployment insurance for hourly school workers, and will you work against any efforts to repeal this benefit?

Yes

Do you support the following education funding priorities?

Q8a. Maintain the current automatic inflationary increase to the basic formula allowance, protecting funding increases from the erosion of inflation.

Yes

Q8b. SPED cross subsidy: Fully fund special education costs instead of relying on school districts to pay for them.

Yes

Q8c. EL cross subsidy: Fully fund the costs districts pay to provide quality English learner programs and instruction.

Yes

Q8d. Lower class sizes: Lower class sizes so teachers can give students more of the individual attention they need and deserve.

Yes

Q8e. Teachers of color: Fund programs to increase the number of teachers of color significantly so that teachers providing instruction better reflect the students in our classrooms.

Yes

Q8f. Student support: Defend Student Support Personnel Aid, which must be used for school nurses, social workers, counselors and psychologists.

Yes

Q8g. Defend against further cuts to school library aid, which is the only dedicated funding source for school libraries and media centers, including

Yes

Q8h. Early learning: Preserve and expand pre-Kindergarten options for all Minnesota families.

Yes

Q9. Would you commit to raising revenue to ensure the wealthiest corporations and richest households pay what they truly owe in taxes so every student, no matter what they look like or where they live, can attend a fully funded public school that prepares them to pursue their dreams?

Yes

Q11. Fully funded schools require adequate and stable revenues. Will you oppose tax cuts and carve outs that lower tax collections or narrow the tax base?

Yes

Q12. Efforts to address college affordability in the last two decades have resulted in 120% growth in the State Grant Program. One consequence of this high tuition/high aid model has been the chronic underfunding of the public college systems. Do you support returning to statutory funding levels for our public higher education institutions?

Yes

Q13. Another consequence of this high tuition/high aid model has been a significant amount of public money going to private colleges and universities. Do you support public dollars going solely to public higher education institutions?

Yes

Q14. Given nationwide attacks on higher education, do you support academic freedom and faculty control of curriculum?

Yes

Q17. Education Minnesota believes all students should have the freedom to feel safe, respected and welcomed in their public schools, no matter what they look like, no matter their country of origin, whether transgender or not. Do you agree?

Yes

Q18. Teachers need more time daily for planning and differentiating. Most after-school "prep" is filled with meetings. The current statute falls short of the time needed for preparing lessons. Will you support adjusting this statute to increase prep time?

Yes

Q19. Do you support paid, dedicated time outside of student contact time for special education teachers to complete their paperwork and attend required meetings?

Yes

Q20. Do you support increased reporting and transparency in worksite safety when reporting physical injuries and emotional trauma in the workplace?

Yes

Q21. The ability of workers to come together in a union and bargain collectively has been vital for reducing wage gaps by gender, building the middle class, and limiting wealth inequality in Minnesota. Do you support expanding and strengthening workers' rights to join a union and bargain collectively?

Yes

Q22. Will you oppose any legislation or constitutional amendments that would weaken collective bargaining rights, the right to organize, the right to strike, automatic payment of union dues, union access and activities at worksites or other anti-union policies backed by anti-worker groups?

Yes

Q23. Do you oppose state tax credits for private K-12 education tuition and expenses?

Yes

Q24. Will you support a moratorium on new charter schools until policy changes are made to ensure a stronger accountability system that will eliminate fraud and improve instructional and employment practices?

Yes

Q25. Will you reject all efforts to carve out, delay or rollback any aspects or benefits of the 2023 paid family medical leave law?

Yes

Q26. Do you support clarifying and strengthening workers' rights and protections in the paid family medical leave program?

Yes

Q1a. If yes: Which one? What were your observations from your visit? How will this experience inform your work as a legislator?

I have not visited a school but I have met with teachers from Eden Valley, MN. They have concerns about funding the rural schools, health insurance, loss of support staff, demands for broadening the curriculum and loss of immigrant students due to ICE raids. Education is one of the four pillars of my campaign. My statement on my website is "The cost of education has gone up as funding from government sources has gone down. I support investing in educators' salaries and benefits, as well as a tuition forgiveness process for trade schools and four year degree programs." The legislation that I will support as a legislator will carry out the vision of my platform.

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Q10. Education Minnesota believes in restoring fairness to the state tax code by raising revenue from the very wealthiest corporations and richest households and reducing the reliance on local levies to fund schools. What progressive, equitable ways to raise state revenue do you support?

I would propose an excise tax on intern marketing firms like Google, Facebook and others. Hawaii is already doing this and is an example to follow. Property tax on Corporate farms should be higher than family farms. The way to keep more Minnesota family farms is by shifting tax burden on to the large corporate farms. Data centers should not get property tax breaks. I would support legislation to fairly tax data centers.

Q15. What individual or system-level decisions in education do you believe are appropriate to make based on standardized test scores?

Standardized tests are biased measures in a standard test taking environment and can be misconstrued related to students' socioeconomic background, english language learners or teaching to the test among others. There are some decisions that can be made from the results such as teaching styles changes, financial needs for resources for the school, and awareness of individual student resources. Large scale changes to curriculum should not be the specific outcome of standardized test scores.

Q16. Most educators believe students should have access to a wide range of age-appropriate books that include relatable characters and situations that reflect the diversity of Minnesota families. However, certain politicians and big money groups are trying to remove books from school libraries across America, particularly books with LGBTQ+ characters or those that deal with racism in America. How should Minnesota protect its students' freedom to read?

Books are a freedom of expression that can facilitate critical thinking by the reader. In the cases of racism and sexual orientation, discovery is the key to understanding others as well as one's self. As a state legislator I will strike down any attempts to take control of age-appropriate published materials.

Propaganda can only be recognized by being exposed and learning to challenge ideas through diverse resources. Removing these books from our schools will deprive students of learning about diverse topics and exposure to thinking critically. For the future of democracy it will be important that we all are trained to critically think.

Q27. How would you support schools, educators and students in recovering from the trauma and financial impacts that Operation Metro Surge inflicted upon our state, especially BIPOC communities?

I believe that schools, educators and students need support to recover from the impacts of Operation Metro Surge. The support needs to be both financial and mental health services. I support this recovery and intend to cast a broad net to include not only those directly affected but to all communities. Unfortunately this federal bullying has provided support for bigotry that fuels the division of our society, which is why we need to provide support to all Minnesotans. Trust between people in our communities is more broken than before the raids. Leaders need to step up and provide resources and examples of acceptance and patience so everyone can gain trust in our community and country again. I will be that example of leadership and role model support and empathy for those affected by Operation Metro Surge.