

Candidate	Ed McGovern
Office Sought	Delegate, HD 42
1) Will you co-sponsor or sign legislation making permanent the requirement in Senate Bill 1303 that public school districts provide all students who wish to access in-person learning with in person education equivalent to the commonwealth's required number of instructional hours?	Yes
2) The Virginia Department of Education ("VDOE") earlier this year proposed to phase out advanced math for certain students until 11th grade. Under this proposal, students would no longer have access to traditional specialized math classes such as Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry in middle school/early high school. Do you agree with this plan?	No
3) Do you support "test-to-stay" efforts to limit the amount of classroom learning lost due to the quarantining of healthy children, e.g., by testing children identified as potential close contacts and then letting them return to school if they test negative?	Yes
4) Thanks to the large military presence in Virginia, many local school districts receive substantial amounts of Federal Impact Aid funding. However, many service members report that these funds are just absorbed into their school district's general budget, rather than being used for supplemental programming, academic and socio-emotional supports military children are supposed to receive as a condition of those funds. How will you work to ensure that Impact Aid reaches military children and supports their highly transient lifestyle by making sure they are properly placed in Advanced, General and Special Education?	The General Assembly in Richmond can and should provide oversight of Education in Virginia. It is difficult to track program dollars (I am a retired Resource Manager with the Dept of the Army) - they get lost in the bureaucracy. Two additional important steps: maintain contact and pressure on Congressional Reps from 8th, 11th, & 10th. How Federal Funds are spent is their job. We also need to consider breaking up Fairfax County Schools into smaller entities. The County concept was not designed for over a million people. The larger the bureaucracy, the harder it is to track what is going on.
5) Describe your philosophy for expanding opportunities for all Virginia children to have access to pre-K education.	Given Terry McAullife's recent illuminating comments on "Parent involvement with schools", I would urge caution on a rush to send pre-K children to Elementary School environments. What McAullife said represents the Educational Industrial Complex bureaucracy. He is not a lone voice. We need to work on school choice at all levels. In the end, public schools will come out stronger as they will provide a product that most people will want.
6) VDOE dismisses special education complaints without investigating them at twice the national average rate, and they are	Again, we need to give serious consideration to having a smaller School

<p>three times less likely to rule in the student's favor than the national average. How would you reform VDOE to ensure that special education students' rights were respected?</p>	<p>Board, smaller school system. We have an Education system where many work for the organization, not the students. Having a smaller system would bring parents closer to the decision making. Which is the key.</p>
<p>7) FCPS recently revised the admissions policy at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology to move away from admissions based mostly on academic merit and to partly consider socioeconomic backgrounds of students. Do you agree with this new admissions policy?</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>8) With the rise of parent scrutiny over school systems, systems have responded by further limiting opportunities for members of the public to participate at public meetings. How will you allow parents to have a greater voice in the public school system?</p>	<p>We must pay more attention to School Board Elections. One party has been on cruise control. We have come to a situation where it could be asked of most if not all Board members - why are you on the School Board? Members have niche issues and are not concerned about the vast majority of students; most members do not & have not had children in Public Schools, and they're members who do not seem interested in Schools. Overall, the School Board has relationships with the FCPS bureaucracy and Teacher's Union leadership that is a conflict of interest. We need to be very interested in why large amounts of out of state money go to Fairfax County School Board elections. And why Union contributions only go to one party.</p>
<p>9) Do you support calling for political parties, including your own, to refrain from endorsing candidates running in nonpartisan school board elections?</p>	<p>No. Having political parties endorse candidates is a recognition of reality. Progressive democrats dominate Public Schools and have for a long time. It is past time for a discussion on that. It is also time to discuss government employees providing campaign contributions & help to politicians. It is a conflict of interest where tax dollars are concerned.</p>
<p>10) Is there any additional information that you would like to share with the parents in Fairfax County?</p>	<p>Having political parties endorse candidates is a recognition of reality. Progressive democrats dominate Public Schools and have for a long time. It is past time for a discussion on that. It is also time to discuss government employees providing campaign contributions & help to politicians. It is a conflict of interest where tax dollars are concerned.</p>

