

<b>Candidate</b>	Gary Pan
<b>Office Sought</b>	House of Delegates, District 34
<b>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?</b>	Yes
<b>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?</b>	No
<b>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?</b>	Yes
<b>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?</b>	Anyone coming in from a new school should be properly assessed and placed in the best level of education to meet their needs. I will look into that process and ensure there is adequate funding for student placement. It is unacceptable for any student to be placed in the wrong level of education. Also, I will ensure that the proper surveys are done to find out where military children are in school so that these federal dollars can be properly allocated.

<p><b>5)</b> Describe your philosophy for expanding opportunities for all Virginia children to have access to pre-K education.</p>	<p>I'm a big proponent of investing into early education. Early education is where we can truly level the playing field and provide equality of opportunity for our students, as opposed to current plans that implement equality of outcome in later grades. Not only this, but early education also allows for more parents to go to work, further empowering many members of our community who otherwise may not be able to join the workforce.</p>
<p><b>6)</b> VDOE dismisses special education complaints without investigating them at twice the national average rate, and they are 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>I would create an outside advisory council comprised of parents, teachers, and administrators to ensure that not only our special education students, but all students receive a fair shake with any complaint they may have. I would also ensure that the special education community is adequately represented on within the VDOE.</p>
<p><b>7)</b> 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><b>8)</b> 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>This is completely unacceptable. A parent should always have a say in their child's education, and I will do everything in my power as your delegate to increase transparency and allow for more cooperation between parents and educators. The first step would be creating an outside advisory council comprised of parents, teachers, and administrators.</p>
<p><b>9)</b> Do you support calling for political parties, including your own, to refrain from endorsing candidates running in nonpartisan school board elections?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>10)</b> Is there any additional information that you would like to share with the parents in Fairfax County?</p>	<p>The education of our children is my number one priority. I will fight for our kids to receive better opportunities every step of the way.</p>