

## **QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS AT THE ECOEA LEGISLATIVE DINNER MARCH 6, 2020**

### **TOPIC: Wellness fund**

The word is that Governor DeWine is going to extend the Wellness Fund in 2022-2023. If so, will you use more recent and accurate data than the outdated, inaccurate 2010 census?

### **TOPIC: Mental Health**

When a student expresses thoughts of suicide due to mental abuse at home, we are required to notify the student's parents (who are the abusers) of the students' intentions. This nearly always increases the student's trouble at home and makes them more inclined to harm themselves. What can be done about this?

### **TOPIC:**

With potential cuts to food stamps, how do you feel about potential cuts to school free breakfast and free lunch programs? Is there a danger that our students will be going hungry at home and at school?

### **TOPIC: Funding**

We are now more than 20 years post having our school funding system declared unconstitutional. When will all students receive the education they deserve, not having your education determined by where you live and how much money your parents have?

### **TOPIC: HB 305**

What progress is being made on HB 305 to fund schools equitably?

### **TOPIC:**

What is your plan to provide adequate funding for all public education?

### **TOPIC: Literacy, Libraries, Reading Funding**

You mention reading is fundamental and we all agree. Research studies have shown that fully-funded school libraries with full-time licensed staff increase test scores. This seems like an easy way to increase literacy. What will you do specifically to make sure all schools have fully-funded school libraries and full-time licensed library staff?

**TOPIC: Windfall Act**

I've heard many times it was being put on the ballot to be voted on. Where does it currently stand today?

**TOPIC: Calendar**

Are the schools ever going to start after Labor Day, instead of going back in the hottest month of the year?

**TOPIC:**

How do you feel about Betsy Devos's education policy? Why do you have to increase the promotion score each year? What are you doing to protect unions? What issues do you see with the state report card?

**TOPIC:**

What resources and services beyond academics do you believe schools and the community should provide to support student well-being and achievement?

**TOPIC: Communication with representatives**

What would be the best way for legislators to get an opportunity to hear teachers' concerns and opinions? We can't come to Columbus to lobby as often as lobbyists. How can we best develop a relationship with our representatives that would be beneficial to both parties?

**TOPIC:**

How do you stay in touch with public schools teachers and classified staff? Do you have teachers you can contact in order to make informed decisions regarding the budget and legislation? How often do you visit public schools? Do you know what the teachers you represent are struggling with?

**TOPIC: RESA**

Any update on House Bill 322 which changes the RESA program to a mentorship program that would be much more valuable to young teachers than a one-time subjective assessment of teachers?

**TOPIC:**

What do you believe are the best ways to evaluate school, teacher, and student performance?

**TOPIC: Public Educators**

How much is a highly qualified teacher with at least a Master's degree worth to our legislators?

**TOPIC:**

Student test scores are currently used to in teacher evaluations. Do you feel this is fair? What is your plan to make this more equitable?

**TOPIC: Resident Educator Summative Assessment Program**

Do you know if the tasks are being reduced or eliminated altogether?

**TOPIC: Transfer Law**

How can you justify voting for a budget bill that does not celebrate the diversity of school systems and was designed to increase the property values of the rich? In the petition to a few, safety was cited as the main concern (traffic). That is not the case.

**TOPIC: Transfer of Territory Law**

Within SB89, I understand that this law is repealed. However, there are a few areas in Plain Township that have been successful in getting their petition on the ballot in March. Provided that the measure is approved by voters and the law is not deemed unconstitutional by the federal court, will there be any help for Plain Local Schools to replace this lost revenue?

**TOPIC: Tax dollars/report cards**

Do you believe local tax dollars should stay in the local public school district that voted and approved them? Why or why not?

Explain your views on the state report card system.

**TOPIC: EdChoice**

Why should public schools be responsible for transporting EdChoice students? The cost of transportation is included in our state funding so the private/charter school should be held responsible for their students.

**TOPIC: Vouchers**

Public school systems educate all students regardless of their economic status, special needs, or behavioral challenges and turn no students away. In Ohio, we are consistently increasing vouchers for students to attend “better” private schools who select their students and who are not held accountable the same ways. How do you defend sending state dollars to these private schools?

**TOPIC: Vouchers**

How will vouchers will help Ohio districts? I want to know.

**TOPIC: Testing**

What (if any) plan exists to curb the amount of standardized testing required by the state?

**TOPIC: Third Grade Reading Guarantee**

As third grade teachers, we are yet to see data showing the effectiveness of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee across the state. How are you measuring the effectiveness of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee and how are you using that information to inform future decisions/changes to the law? Is there a plan for amendment?

**TOPIC: State Report Cards**

How committed are the House and Senate to developing a fair state report card so our schools are evaluated fairly and equitably, and don't punish districts and students in poverty?

**TOPIC:**

How will you support the goal of high achievement for every student? How will you help engage the community to continue to improve public education?

**TOPIC: Resources**

What are your top priorities for improving public education? What is your personal plan to improve public education?

**TOPIC: Special Education**

How do you support and how can you help improve education for students in special education classes?