



2026 Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name: Stacy L. McNish

Position: School Board

District: 7

What are your fundamental personal values that will guide your proposals and decisions if elected to the Board of Education?

I believe every student deserves a safe, supportive, and empowering education. I value transparency, collaboration, and deep listening to students, families, and educators. I am committed to strengthening mental health supports, improving special education services, and ensuring that all students feel respected, included, and empowered to reach their full potential.

What is your position regarding bans on books and specific curriculum content in schools?

I oppose book bans and politically motivated curriculum restrictions. Students deserve access to diverse perspectives, accurate history, and age-appropriate materials that reflect the world they live in. Even if it is uncomfortable. Decisions should be guided by educators and research, not politics. Removing books or censoring content harms students, especially those who rely on representation to feel understood and empowered. Our responsibility is to empower students with critical-thinking skills, not limit their access to knowledge.

Is your campaign accepting funding from PACs and/or out-of-state or out-of-county donations?

My campaign is committed to transparency, community trust, and empowering local voices. I am not accepting funding from PACs. I am focused on grassroots support from Baltimore County residents. If an occasional out-of-county or out-of-state individual chooses to contribute, those donations will be fully disclosed and reported in accordance with Maryland campaign finance law. This campaign is people-powered and accountable to the students, families, and educators I aim to collaboratively serve.

What is your position permitting students to opt out of certain portions of the approved curriculum? If in favor, how would that work in practice?



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I support a strong, evidence-based curriculum for all students. Broad opt-outs create inconsistencies, but limited accommodations may be appropriate for specific health, disability, or religious needs. These decisions should be made collaboratively to ensure the student still receives a complete and empowering education without limiting exposure to diverse perspectives.

How will you address the funding losses you will experience as the Federal funding shrinks? If you would recommend cutting programs, which ones would those be?

My priority is protecting classroom instruction, special education, mental health supports, and programs that empower students. Before considering cuts, we must audit spending, reduce administrative redundancies, and reevaluate non-instructional costs. We should collaborate with county and state leaders, pursue grants, and build community partnerships to maintain student-focused services.

I would not support cutting programs that serve our most vulnerable students. Any financial adjustments must be transparent, data-driven, and centered on empowering students to thrive.