

Thank you for participating in this survey from AUPE's Committee On Political Action. The Committee is asking for **all surveys to be completed by Thursday, September 30**. Please send your responses or any questions of your own to AUPE via **email at t.tangedal@aupe.org**

The committee intends to publish the responses (or lack thereof) during the week of October 4.

Curriculum:

Curriculum experts, educators, parents, and many of the current school boards have pointed out the flaws in the draft k-6 curriculum.

Q1: Do you agree with calls to scrap the draft curriculum and start over to develop a curriculum that is accurate in capturing Alberta's colonial history, diverse present, and modernized to reflect the world we live in?

A1: Absolutely scrap the current proposed K-6 Draft Curriculum! I would like to hear the opinions of educators, experts and parents on returning to the previous draft curriculum as a new starting point, rather than starting again from ground zero. My understanding is that plenty of work and resources were invested in the previous draft and therefore it should be given consideration.

Funding:

Alberta continues to be a growing province, with more students entering the system. While we're told funding is tight for public education, Alberta continues to subsidize private education with millions in public dollars.

Q2: Do you believe the current education funding formula is sufficient for your district? If not, how will you work to convince the province to provide sustainable and adequate funding?

A2: The current education funding formula seems to fall short in adequately funding growing schools / areas. I'd like to gather information on the viability of changing the collection of our tax dollars to include 3 categories to fund: (1) public (2) catholic / separate and (3) private. That would mean working with other elected government officials to incorporate change as well as garner the support of the tax-payer base.

Privatization including P3s:

AUPE members know very well that privatization regularly fails to find "efficiencies" and any cost savings are often off the backs of workers who become de-unionized, with lower pay and benefits.

They also work on the front lines of service delivery and see the problems caused by high-turnover low wage private providers, and the bureaucratic burden caused by

having to deal with a third party instead of an in-house provider.

Q3: Will you oppose privatization of school services and infrastructure, including Public-Private- Partnerships aka P3s? Will you support bringing previously privatized services in-house?

A3: I honestly have not had enough time to learn about the intricacies of this issue as of yet. There are pro's and con's to both unionized and privatized models and I am open to accept your organization's input on this topic for consideration.

Schools as Employers:

As our economies recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, good jobs are an important factor. Public sector workers spend in their communities, and many households impacted by private sector recessions have been able to keep the bills paid thanks to a stable public sector job.

Q4: Will you support your employees and your community by ensuring the school board employs staff with living wages, full-time hours where desired, job security, and collective bargaining rights?

A4: While I support stability for our children, there are circumstances when we must question the viability of sustaining a model that does not fit the current situation. Therefore, my answer to your question can neither be a flat out yes, nor a flat out no. I am a believer in finding balance and would work to ensure that our children receive an excellent education while honoring the hard work of our educators.

Q5: . Will you oppose attempts from the provincial government to legislate against school staff including cuts to the Local Authorities Pension Plan, or restrictions on their right to strike?

A5: . Again, I have not had enough time to familiarize myself with this issue, however I can generally say that my mind does not feel right about pension plan cuts for anyone - educators included. As for the right to strike, even as a student, I did not see this as a benefit to the children of our schools. Public education is first and foremost for the children. Currently, the pay structure for educators seems more than fair, so I don't see a reason to support striking at this time.

A6: . I definitely support measures to reduce the spread of Covid-19 in schools. Anyone who wants to wear a medical device or participate in medical procedures should be allowed. Canada is a free country.

Since fresh air is vital to overall health and to avoid the virus, I also support HVAC system reviews and upgrades where needed.

Additionally, educators have the unique ability to weave health curriculum into the everyday lives of students, and as such can ensure they learn proper hygiene and diet, including getting robust amounts of Vit D3+K2, Zinc and Quercitin.

COVID Safety:

With the negligent provincial response to now three preventable waves of COVID-19, school boards have been put in an awkward position of needing to take measure to protect their students and staff throughout the pandemic. Many are introducing measures of their own, but not all have.

Q6: . Do you support measures such as mask mandates, and vaccine mandates for staff to limit and reduce the spread of COVID-19 in your schools?



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