

Nancy Hunt responses
Candidate for Edmonton Public School Board Ward F

1. 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?

I AGREE with creating a curriculum that is "accurate in capturing Alberta's colonial history, diverse present, and modernized to reflect the world we live in". Additionally, the next draft must be inclusive, to support the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, to build Global Citizenship, and to pay particular attention to Health and Wellness (including mental health). The process of curriculum development needs to be inclusive of teachers, parents, curriculum experts and Indigenous and other community leaders and should consider the 2018 curriculum draft.

2. 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?

NO the funding is not sufficient. The weighted moving average model for per student funding is putting Edmonton at a disadvantage compared with other regions. As we are a high growth region, we are missing funding for students every year. I am also very concerned about our shortage of capital funds and the massive cuts in funding for early learning support (formerly PUF).

In lobbying the province, I will provide both quantitative and qualitative analyses to demonstrate appropriate funding and the real consequences of underfunding.

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

YES, I will oppose privatization of school services and infrastructure. These models have been shown to be costly and inflexible. I will support bringing previously privatized services in-house.

4. 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?

YES; long term, meaningful employment where employees are valued and respected is a priority for me.

5. 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?

YES. School staff are essential workers. They deserve fair treatment for the long term and their voices need to be heard.

6. 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?

YES. This is an unprecedented time. I am committed to work to keep schools open, keep students and staff safe, and to work to provide mental health support for our school communities. We need to be adaptable as well as being fair and supportive of individuals with exemptions.