



Montgomery County Taxpayers League
GUIDANCE FOR VOTERS: BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES, 2024

Montgomery County Board of Education **District 4**

Candidate	Political/Work Experience	Experience: Budget Oversight Large Orgs	Closing Opportunity Gap	MCPS' Biggest Problem/Need	Attract & Retain Effective School Staff	Teen Mental Health Resources	Parent of Current MCPS Student(s)	Why are you Running for BOE	School Resource Officers (SROs)	Opt-Out Curriculum for Religious Beliefs
Shebra Evans	Incumbent BOE member, Treasurer MABE	8 years BOE Incumbent	Blueprint for Maryland's Future. Equitable outcomes for every student.	Improve outcomes for students & communication infrastructure, build trust with families.	Strategic recruitment, build relationships, Certification for support staff, Competitive salary & Grow-Your-Own initiative.	Counseling & mental health services.	Yes, High School	Improve student outcomes, equity focused	No SROs. Current CEO program.	No
Bethany S. Mandel	Journalist and Commentator	Not Provided	Expand science of reading initiatives, prioritize teachers in classrooms.	Falling test scores, rising violence, wasted spending, soaring absenteeism.	Safe & respectful school climate. Re-evaluation Restorative Justice.	Anti-bullying task force, involve parents in mental health concerns. No phone use during school day.	No, Home School Elementary School	Improve outcomes for Students, Respect Parental Rights	Yes SROs in MS & HS. Maintain safe schools.	Yes
Laura M Stewart	Advocate, PTA, music Tutor	6 years PTA Capital Improvement Program tracker.	Universal Pre-K, focus on science of reading, intervention teams, equitable access to quality teachers, tutoring.	Improve outcomes, reform systems & structure from the top down.	Grow-Your-Own initiative. Competitive benefits & Compensation, evaluate exit interviews & MCPS positive growth culture.	Direct outreach programs for extracurricular activities, & lunch bunches. Telehealth access at schools.	No	Improve outcomes, equity, Accountability, Transparency	No SROs, enhance CEO program.	No

Authorized by Montgomery County Taxpayers League, Esther Wells, President. Gordon Brenne, Treasurer, April 2024.

Sources of candidate and voting information:

- League of Women Voters of Montgomery County Voters Guide 2024
- MoCo360 2024 Voters Guide, Board of Education
- Montgomery Perspective School Board Questionnaire: MCPS's Biggest Problem
- Montgomery Perspective School Board Questionnaire: Experience with Budgets
- Montgomery Perspective School Board Questionnaire: Opt-Outs for Parents
- Montgomery Perspective School Board Questionnaire: Police Officers in Schools
- Vote411 information for Voters
- Contact information for all 2024 Board of Education candidates – Maryland State Board of Elections, candidate information by county