



School Board Member Candidate Survey: 2023

Additional comments provided by: **Audrey Blust**

“The purpose of U.S. public schools is to provide a fair and high-quality education to all students, enabling them to become responsible citizens and valuable members of society. This objective is influenced by federal and state laws, as well as the values and priorities of local communities.

The Downingtown Area School District (DASD) takes great pride in its commitment to diversity, inclusivity, and equity for all students. Not all school districts offer the same level of educational quality as DASD, which is why parents may seek alternatives, such as vouchers, to ensure their child's education.

Within DASD, a highly capable superintendent has been appointed to lead efforts to improve statewide test scores, which have seen a decline due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the superintendent has taken proactive steps to implement full-day kindergarten, a feature now present in 85% of school districts in Pennsylvania. Despite the challenging economic climate, DASD has managed to keep tax increases at a modest \$124 on a \$500,000 home. These initiatives collectively enable families to provide their children with a child-centric education within the Downingtown Area School District.”

Children First Action Fund is a nonpartisan organization that works to ensure that all children, especially those burdened by poverty and adversity, have the best chance of reaching their full potential. We work on both sides of the aisle, in a non-partisan fashion, to help elected officials learn what it takes for children to succeed and persuade them to support our legislative measures. If you have any questions, please reach out to childrenmatteractionfund@gmail.com.

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