

Presubmitted questions/topics and questions
ECOEA LEGISLATIVE DINNER MARCH 6, 2026

There is a big push in Ohio right now to eliminate property taxes. Because state legislators have failed to address the unconstitutionality of our public-school funding model and instead force us to rely on property taxes for funding, what is your plan? How will you work to 1. Educate the masses on the devastating impact if property taxes were repealed and 2. Create a fair and reliable funding model for public education?

Please explain the rationale behind the push to remove tenure in Ohio.

What will you do to protect public education? Do you think the voucher system is fair? Do you think the public should continue to fund and bus to charters and parochial schools? Why are you not trying to hold them accountable like you do us and do not require them to test and publish results like us?

Why are you wanting to dismantle public education?

Why is public education and private/charter schools not on the same accountability system?

With many Stark County districts now facing tighter budgets due to cuts in state funding, how do you plan to protect our public schools from future state budget cuts and losses caused by property tax inflation caps?

As teachers, we teach our students the importance of civic engagement and reaching out to their representatives. However, many of us have found some of your office voicemails consistently full and our emails unanswered. With critical changes affecting school funding like HB 186, how can we ensure our professional expertise as educators actually reaches you before you cast these votes? Will you commit tonight to hosting a dedicated 'Teacher Town Hall'?

The most recent state budget that was passed in June reduced funding to our schools by millions of dollars. Why was the choice made to subsidize private tuition for wealthy families before reaching 100% funding for the Fair School Funding Plan for public students?

Mr. Ramaswamy is calling for a move to merit-based pay. As a teacher, I know that 'merit' is often tied to standardized test scores which don't account for socioeconomic status or disability. Do you support dismantling the current salary schedule in favor of a merit system?

How do you propose you will protect and support STRS?

How do you plan on protecting our students with migration/immigration status and ICE and making sure schools are a safe place for them?

Please explain why some of you have been endorsed by OEA and give all the pro-public education answers to questions and then vote against public education. I keep hearing you want to avoid being primaried. In your opinion, is it more important to KEEP your power or USE your power?

Written questions submitted at the dinner
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Will charter and private schools be under the same parameters (standardized testing) of merit pay as public? So why no mandates for charter and private schools?

\$35,000 as the minimum? What is a starting congress person salary, \$63,000?-from a Canton Professional Educators' Association (CPEA) member

When public schools are asked to meet strict accountability standards while voucher-funded private schools operate under different requirements, how do you ensure transparency and equal accountability for taxpayer dollars?-from a CPEA member

Did you attend public school? How do you proposed schools fund themselves with all of the budget cuts, lack of funding? Why do you support vouchers?-from a CPEA member

If school choice is a priority, how do you ensure that expanding private options don't financially destabilize the public schools, school that are constitutionally obligated to be funded, that are still legally required to education EVERY student who walks through the door?-a CPEA member

What measurable evidence do you have that the current expansion of vouchers is improving overall student outcomes in Ohio?-a CPEA member

What concrete steps are you taking to protect Ohio teachers' retirement systems and make them sustainable for the next generation?-a CPEA member

Questions used/planned by President Juliann for the panel at the Legislative Dinner
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What is your approach in your role to supporting public education?

How will you then protect our current salary schedule?

How do you propose you will protect and support STRS?

What ideas do you have for reducing onerous mandates placed on educators so that we can focus on our mission of teaching in the classroom? For example, do you support reducing the number of state-mandated standardized tests? Do you have any concerns about legislation (SB 19) that would create "math improvement and monitoring plans" for students based on a single standardized test score?

What legislative initiatives have you supported or proposed to address teacher shortages, improve compensation and benefits for educators, and reduce turnover in our public school system? Are you in support of House Bill 523? The future educators support act

Do you support updating and funding the Fair School Funding Plan?

What is your position on the possible constitutional amendment eliminating local property taxes in Ohio?

Can you explain what is involved in making a decision to vote against public education? Will you commit to a Teacher Town Hall? Better communication avenues? What is the best way to reach you?

Do you plan on protecting our students with migration/immigration status and ICE and making sure schools are a safe place for them?

Can you share your perspective on how this policy supports or undermines equity in public education? How are you working to protect students of diverse faiths and non-religious families from feeling marginalized or excluded?

What is your position on state-level mandates versus local decision-making regarding released time and the involvement of religious institutions?