

Thank you for participating in the 2023 Activist Toolkit Voter Guide to the Oak Park consolidated election. This year's guide will collect articles, videos, relevant web links, and contact information and post them online at activisttoolkit.org for easy access by voters. It will be published on or before March 20, 2023 and updated periodically through election day. The guide is non-partisan and will not include endorsements.

We hope you will complete the attached questionnaire and return your responses to activisttoolkitop@gmail.com, along with a digital headshot, by March 15, 2023. Late submissions will not be included at launch but may be published late at our convenience. You are also welcome to include links to any online material you would like to have appear in the guide.

Activist Toolkit (activisttoolkit.org) is a resource for progressive activists in and around the near west suburbs of Chicago. The site was created in early 2017 by Paul Goyette and Carollina Song, Oak Park activists looking for ways to help people connect with local political initiatives and facilitate connections between progressive organizations.

DISTRICT 200 SCHOOL BOARD
2023 ACTIVIST TOOLKIT CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Please limit answers to 200 words.

- 1) What motivates you to seek this office? What makes you qualified to serve? What metrics of success do you plan on holding yourself accountable to?
- 2) How do you make decisions?
- 3) How will you work to ensure that D200 provides an excellent educational experience for all its students? What metrics of success do you plan on holding yourself accountable to?
- 4) How would you approach the budgeting process?
- 5) Please discuss your thinking about D200's Imagine project. Should the next phase go through the referendum process?
- 6) Special education is mandated by federal law. How can D200 better work to provide an excellent education for students in need of special education?
- 7) What is D200 doing well with respect to providing all students with an equitable education and what could it do better?
- 8) What is your impression of D200's Access for All detracking curriculum redesign program and of detracking efforts generally?
- 9) What lessons learned from the pandemic's early years do you believe will continue to be applicable to the ways that schools operate?
- 10) District 200 has taken some steps to move away from policing and surveillance in schools toward restorative justice, mental health supports, and other services in schools. Do you feel these moves have been successful? Why or why not? What work do you believe remains to be done in this area?
- 11) What approach should D200 take towards intergovernmental cooperation initiatives such as the Collaboration for Early Childhood Development? Are there other specific initiatives that you would like to implement or expand upon?
- 12) What approach should D200 take towards intermunicipal cooperation with neighboring communities? Are there specific initiatives that you would like to implement or expand upon?

- 13) Public schools have been faced with deciding whether or not to remove books from their shelves if a parent or group of parents deem the content to be inappropriate, too controversial or objectionable. How would you handle this issue and how should District 200 handle this question?
- 14) Do you see a role for the D200 Board in ensuring that the climate at OPRFHS is welcoming to students in minority populations, whether racial, religious identity, LGBTQ, etc.? What specific actions or policies would you propose?
- 15) A new report issued by the Centers of Disease and Control found that in 2021, very large numbers of students experienced poor mental health. Twenty-two percent of students seriously considered attempting suicide and ten percent attempted suicide. These feelings were found to be more common among LGBTQ+ students, female students, and students across racial and ethnic groups. What can D200 do to address this trend?
- 16) The School Board's primary responsibility is oversight of the Superintendent. District 200 recently hired a new superintendent, Greg Johnson, who was promoted to the position of superintendent in 2021. What criteria will you use to evaluate the success of Mr. Johnson's tenure?
- 17) For those who are currently serving or have previously served on the D200 Board: What vote are you most proud of, and what vote do you most regret? Why?