



UNDERSTANDING NJEA PAC'S ENDORSEMENT PROCESS

On Nov. 2—and earlier for those who vote by mail—New Jersey voters will elect a new governor and 120 state legislators. State government has a profound impact on what happens in New Jersey's schools. That's why the NJEA Political Action Committee (PAC) carefully screens all candidates for statewide public office.

NJEA PAC prides itself on having a sound, fair, and democratic process leading up to the endorsement of a candidate. The purpose of the process is to identify the candidate most supportive of NJEA's legislative program. Endorsing and electing candidates who support NJEA's goals significantly increases the association's ability to pass favorable legislation and stop negative legislation.

THE SCREENING PROCESS

ESTABLISHING A SCREENING COMMITTEE

PAC screening committees are established for each legislative district (LD). Each committee includes members of the NJEA PAC Operating Committee who represent their respective counties and the New Jersey Retirees' Education Association (NJREA) legislative county chairperson.

Screening committees also include NJEA Government Relations Committee and Congressional Contact Committee members from counties involved, the county president, and NJEA Executive Committee members from the counties involved.

EVALUATING THE CANDIDATES

For November elections, screening committees generally invite candidates for an interview in late spring or summer. Prior to meeting the candidate, the committee reviews completed NJEA questionnaires submitted by the candidate and if he or she is an incumbent, the candidate's voting record.

Each candidate screening session lasts up to an hour, allowing time for candidates to make a presentation and answer screening committee questions. Questions are based upon issues relevant to public education and advocacy for the people who work in public schools as well as issues and concerns within the membership of the counties within the legislative districts involved.

When evaluating the candidates, screening

committees consider candidates' positions on issues and electability. For incumbents, committees also consider legislative voting records, committee assignments, leadership positions, sponsorship of pro-public education legislation, and accessibility to NJEA members.

ENDORING THE CANDIDATES

The screening committee does not make the final endorsement. Rather, it recommends a position to be considered by the NJEA PAC Operating Committee.

To make its recommendation, the county screening committee discusses the merits of each candidate. The committee may recommend the endorsement of one candidate in a race, recommend no endorsement, or recommend a "your choice" option, which indicates that both candidates are in agreement with NJEA's goals and positions.

The 125-member NJEA PAC Operating Committee consists of NJEA's officers, the NJEA Executive Committee, the county association presidents, the NJEA Government Relations Committee, the Congressional Contact Committee, the president of NJEA Preservice, the NJREA legislative chairperson, and two NJREA regional legislative chairs.

For the November general election, the committee usually meets in the late summer. It reviews the recommendations of the screening committees and brings votes to determine who will become NJEA PAC-endorsed candidates.

On the pages that follow are photos and statements from the legislative candidates who upon completion of the process were endorsed by NJEA PAC.

No endorsements were made in legislative districts 8, 9, 23, 24, and 29. Senate endorsements were not made in districts 1, 12, 30, and 33. In districts 10, 25, 26, and 31 only one Assembly endorsement was made.

LD 1

Assembly

JOHN CAPIZOLA JR. (D)

As a proud member of the NJEA and a product of our New Jersey public schools, I hope for legislative partnerships to create meaningful legislation to advance NJEA initiatives post-pandemic and more. Our public schools are a shining star in our nation, and as an Assemblyman partnering with our outstanding educators, our future is bright.



ERIK SIMONSEN (R)

As both an educator and administrator with over 30 years of experience, I understand the positive impact passionate professionals make in our children's lives. I look forward to working with our partners in the education community to ensure a safe and healthy reopening of our schools this year and for years to come.



LD 2

Senate

VINCE MAZZEO (D)

NJEA and its Atlantic County chapter are fierce advocates for our children and New Jersey's top-in-the-nation education system. I am honored to receive their endorsement and to continue working with their members to ensure Atlantic County schools receive their fair share of funding and that their input is included as schools plan for reopening in the fall.



Assembly

JOHN ARMATO (D)

It is an honor to again be endorsed by NJEA. As a union member while an HVAC technician, I understand the importance and strength of NJEA and its Atlantic County chapter as they work together with their school communities to plan safe reopenings this fall so our children can return to in-person education.



CAREN FITZPATRICK (D)

New Jersey has one of the top education systems in the nation thanks to the hardworking teachers and educational support professionals in NJEA, and I am proud to have earned their endorsement. I look forward to working in the General Assembly with NJEA and its membership to ensure Atlantic County receives its fair share of school funding and that we continue to equip our children with the tools needed for success.



LD 3

Senate

STEPHEN SWEENEY (D)

Senate President Steve Sweeney would like to thank New Jersey's educators for their steadfast dedication to keeping our students engaged in learning during this most challenging time. I am proud that we were able to work together to cut healthcare costs for both teachers and taxpayers, and to protect non-teaching jobs from being outsourced.



Assembly

JOHN BURZICHELLI (D)

Assemblyman Burzichelli would like to thank the NJEA and its members for their hard work and resolve as they faced unprecedented challenges in the past school year. I look forward to continuing to collaborate and ensure that our educators and their families can rely on affordable healthcare.



ADAM TALIAFERRO (D)

Assemblyman Taliaferro extends his gratitude to New Jersey's educators as they persevered and created new ways to keep our children educationally engaged during this challenging school year. Thank you for the support. Together we will continue to find ways to preserve more critically needed non-teaching jobs.



LD 4

Senate

FRED MADDEN (D)

Public education is the cornerstone of strong communities and vital to the success of future generations. I offer my deepest thanks to teachers and educational support professionals who have worked tirelessly during this pandemic and helped in immeasurable ways. I look forward to continuing to support public education in this state. Once again, thank you for your support.



LD 4

Assembly

PAUL D. MORIARTY (D)



In the face of unprecedented obstacles, New Jersey's educators and educational support professionals have adjusted to the circumstances of the pandemic to provide an unrivaled education for our students. I am proud of the work we have done this legislative session, and I look forward to continuing to work with New Jersey's teachers.

GABRIELA MOSQUERA (D)



Our state's education system is a large reason that people move to New Jersey, and that is something we should be very proud of. Over the last year, our state's educators have been met with tremendous challenges, but have found creative ways to still educate the young people in our state. Working together, we can continue to find innovative ways to keep our students and faculty safe, while maintaining our high level of education.

LD 5

Senate

NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ (D)



These unprecedented times highlighted the importance of implementing a safe and secure plan that addresses the needs of our education community. Educators play a vital role in the lives of children and families. We must do all we can to continue to ensure that New Jersey schools and families are provided with quality education.

Assembly

WILLIAM SPEARMAN (D)



Thank you NJEA for endorsing me for the Assembly. My brother was first a counsellor and then a vice principal. My sister was a history teacher and as band-boosters my wife and I work closely with other support staff. I appreciate what your members do for our children. Thank you.

WILLIAM MOEN (D)



Thanks to the NJEA for their endorsement of my state Assembly reelection campaign. I look forward to working with our state's teachers and educational support professionals to ensure their priorities remain in the forefront of our work in the State House, as our educators are responsible for growing our country's greatest natural resource: our children.

LD 6

Senate

JAMES BEACH (D)



As a retired teacher who worked for over 25 years in the Camden and Black Horse Pike school districts, I have boundless appreciation for the tireless dedication New Jersey teachers and educational support professionals have shown our children in the face of unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. As we begin yet another school year facing these challenges, providing districts with resources to protect everyone's health and safety will be paramount.

Assembly

LOUIS GREENWALD (D)



Thank you for your endorsement. I look forward to continuing to work with NJEA and its members to ensure our children continue to benefit from the best education in the nation. To do that we must make sure teachers and educational support professionals have access to all necessary resources and that we continue to attract the highest quality individuals.

PAMELA R. LAMPITT (D)



Year after year, New Jersey public schools rank top in the nation and this distinction is due largely to the hard work and commitment of our educators and educational support professionals. To ensure that the children of New Jersey continue to receive the highest quality education, it is vital that our educators and support staff have the resources they need, and I remain committed to being a strong advocate for our public schools. I am proud to stand with the NJEA to fight for our public schools, educational support staff, and teachers.

LD 7

Senate

TROY SINGLETON (D)



The pandemic's remote learning has demonstrated just how hard educators, administrators, and support staff work to teach our children. Many of us knew it wasn't an easy job; some parents learned firsthand how hard it is. I will continue to support legislation that recognizes the value of our educators.

Assembly

HERB CONAWAY (D)



I'd like to thank the NJEA for their endorsement. As the son of a public school teacher, I've seen the passion and desire to prepare our students all my life. I look forward to working together to prepare New Jersey students for the careers of tomorrow.

**CAROL MURPHY (D)**

It is an honor to receive the endorsement from NJEA, representing more than 200,000 teachers and educational support professionals. It is my belief that education is the essence of opportunity, a good education levels the playing field, and I'm proud to support public education throughout our state.

**ERIC HOUGHTALING (D)**

Assemblyman Houghtaling is the chair of the Agriculture Committee, the vice chair of the Oversight, Reform and Federal Relations Committee, member of the Tourism, Gaming and the Arts Committee, member of the Labor Committee and serves as the Deputy Majority Leader. Eric has always strived to give back to the community.

LD 10

Senate**EMMA L. MAMMANO (D)**

I have three children in the Brick Public schools, so I am keenly aware of the fact that teachers and staff are overworked and undervalued, now more than ever. It will be my priority to increase funding for mental health services for students and staff and to protect your health care benefits. I also will fight to recover funding for the Brick and Toms River school districts.

Assembly**GREGORY P. MCGUCKIN (R)**

I am extremely honored to receive the NJEA PAC endorsement for the 2021 New Jersey General Assembly Election. The education of our children and the support of our teachers and educational support professionals has always been a top priority. My wife is a Toms River teacher, so I see firsthand the time and effort our teachers put into their daily lesson plans, especially after the last school year teachers and staff endured. Thank you for this honor.

LD 12

Assembly**ROBERT D. CLIFTON (R)**

I believe that the recovery from the pandemic is going to be a long-term effort and New Jersey educators will be at the forefront of that recovery. I look forward to continuing to work with teachers, support staff, and administrators to come up with the best policies for our children.

**RONALD S. DANCER (R)**

I am pleased and humbled to again receive the endorsement of NJEA. Working together on educational quality, fair funding, and good working conditions for teachers and educational support professionals, we will continue to make a difference.

LD 11

Senate**VIN GOPAL (D)**

It is an honor to be endorsed by the NJEA. In these difficult times, I am proud to stand with teachers and educational support professionals, who have been frontline heroes throughout the pandemic. I pledge to continue to work in partnership with you all to create a stronger New Jersey.

Assembly**JOANN DOWNEY (D)**

Assemblywoman Joann Downey is the chair of the Human Services Committee, member of the Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee, and serves as the General Assembly Parliamentarian. Through her work in the General Assembly, Joann fights to provide real property tax relief to residents and advocate for our most vulnerable communities.

LD 13

Senate**VINCENT SOLOMEMO III (D)**

The first time I fought for change I was 13. I organized students and fought for a contract for Union Beach teachers and educational support professionals. I'm an Army veteran who deployed overseas and served at home during Superstorm Sandy and COVID-19. In Trenton, I will fight for you.

Assembly**ALLISON FRIEDMAN (D)**

Education has always been important to me. As a parent and a member of the board of education, I respect and understand the importance of each and every one who ensures our students' safety and education. Teachers, guidance, custodians, bus drivers and instructional assistants are all crucial to our school community and the community at large. Through being on the board of education and running for Assembly, I honor those teachers who helped me become the person I am today.

LD 13

Assembly

ERIN HOWARD (D)

I have three children who attend public elementary school, and I am the daughter of a public school teacher. I am running for Assembly to ensure that the values I'm raising my children with are reflected in our government. Fighting for teachers, administrators, support staff and education will be a top priority when I'm in Trenton.



LD 14

Senate

LINDA GREENSTEIN (D)

I am honored to receive the support of NJEA. I want to thank our teachers and educational support professionals for continuing to provide a high-quality education to our children during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. New Jersey's best in the nation public schools are possible because of our educators.



Assembly

DANIEL BENSON (D)

I am proud of our best in the nation public schools. I am humbled to have the support of our teachers and educational support professionals who help make them a reality. This past year has presented unprecedented difficulties. I thank the NJEA and its members for meeting them head on.



WAYNE DEANGELO (D)

As a legislator and labor leader it is an honor to receive NJEA's endorsement. Our teachers and educational support professionals are a core part of the high-quality public education we have come to expect in New Jersey. I look forward to continuing to support your hard work.



LD 15

Senate

SHIRLEY K. TURNER (D)

As a career educator, I am proud to have the opportunity to serve in the New Jersey Legislature and advance the policies that support our educational professionals as they shape the development of our students and help them prepare for their future. I applaud our educators who are tireless advocates of our children.



Assembly

VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON (D)

I am truly honored to be endorsed by NJEA, which works on behalf of teachers and educational support professionals (ESPs). Supporting teachers and ESPs has been and will continue to be a priority of mine during my time in the New Jersey General Assembly. I will always be a staunch ally of NJEA and will continue to fight for them every day.



ANTHONY S. VERRELLI (D)

I thank NJEA wholeheartedly for endorsing my candidacy for reelection to the Assembly. NJEA's endorsement sends a clear message to my constituents that I support our public school teachers and educational support professionals. I oppose high-stakes standardized testing for students and burdensome evaluation regimes required of teacher candidates, including the edTPA.



LD 16

Senate

ANDREW ZWICKER (D)

As the son and spouse of public school educators, I am acutely aware of how our teachers and educational support staff are critical to the success of our children and communities. Our innovative educators tackled the unprecedented challenges of remote and hybrid learning during the past year with exceptional creativity and dedication in the face of their own personal challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. I am grateful for the endorsement from NJEA as we work together to ensure that our students and staff have the resources they need so that we continue to have the best public schools in the U.S.



Assembly

ROY FREIMAN (D)

As the spouse of a retired teacher, I know firsthand that investing in our schools means investing in our future. I am committed to continuing my fierce advocacy for educational professionals as they work to overcome the unprecedented adversity they have faced over the past year. Our education professionals, students, and their families have my voice in Trenton fighting for what they need to come back to the classroom more successful than ever.



SADAF JAFFER (D)

As an educator, academic, and mother, I have the utmost respect and admiration for teachers and educational support professionals who work tirelessly to inspire children and equip them with the knowledge needed to be successful. I look forward to working with NJEA to ensure New Jersey's public education system remains the best in the nation.



LD 17

Senate

BOB SMITH (D)

It is an honor to be endorsed by the NJEA alongside my 17th District running mates Assemblymen Joe Egan and Joe Danielsen. Together, we will continue work to increase educational funding for our public schools, support teachers, staff and students and help facilitate a safe and healthy learning environment in these challenging times.



Assembly

JOE DANIELSEN (D)

As the son of a teacher in the Franklin School district in Somerset County, I saw how hard-working and dedicated my mother was. Since early childhood, I have revered the work that educational employees provide our students daily. Your dedication has been enhanced through the trials and tribulations of this pandemic. Thank you for your service. I am honored to receive your endorsement.



JOSEPH V. EGAN (D)

Working to increase educational funding for our public schools continues to be a priority for me and my legislative colleagues, Senator Bob Smith and Assemblyman Joe Danielsen in the 17th District. I appreciate the endorsement from the hard-working NJEA members especially in these challenging times.



LD 18

Senate

PATRICK DIEGNAN JR. (D)

As the father and brother of teachers, and as a former teacher myself, I know firsthand the dedication and determination of teachers and staff. In these times of COVID, we as legislators must support and protect those in the classroom who risk their personal safety to provide an education for our children. I am proud to have the support of NJEA.



Assembly

ROBERT KARABINCHAK (D)

New Jersey is fortunate to have the country's finest educators and educational support professionals. Despite this past year's unforeseen challenges, NJEA members have persevered and continue providing the best education to our students. They are among the many pandemic heroes, and I am truly humbled to have received their endorsement.



STERLEY S. STANLEY (D)

I am a proud supporter of those who have dedicated their lives to education and public service. We continue to send our children to the best schools in the country and that is a testament to your members. Over the last year, unforeseen challenges and obstacles have been thrown at your members, but they have continued to provide the top-notch education to our children.



LD 19

Senate

JOSEPH VITALE (D)

Thank you to the NJEA for your endorsement! Our educators and support professionals have been nothing short of heroic during these extremely trying times. If granted another term as District 19's senator, I will continue to support your steadfast efforts to ensure that our children receive the highest quality education in the safest possible environments.



Assembly

CRAIG J. COUGHLIN (D)

As a product of public schools, I am a staunch believer that public education is the "great equalizer." Our system provides an efficient, free and thorough education to all students regardless of any demographic and our society has the moral obligation to provide and protect this aim at all costs.



YVONNE LOPEZ (D)

Now more than ever, we continue to realize the dedication and immense contributions of our teachers, school support staff and educational professionals who have ensured that a global pandemic did not interrupt the education of our students. I look forward to continuing to support NJEA and being a strong advocate for our school heroes.



LD 20

Senate

JOSEPH P. CRYAN (D)

NJEA has stood up for its members through every fight. As a partner with NJEA, we have fought to secure funding and resources for teachers that dedicate their lives to educate our youth and continue to fight to ensure the pension continues to be fully funded.



Assembly

ANNETTE QUIJANO (D)

I'd like to thank the teachers and education support professionals of the NJEA for their endorsement. Together, we can ensure that teachers and education support professionals are treated fairly, so that they continue to deliver a great education to all students.



LD 20



Assembly

REGINALD ATKINS (D)

Over the last year and a half, the critical importance of our teachers and educational support professionals has never been clearer. We owe a debt of gratitude to all those on the front line and those who found creative ways to continue engaging our children. In the Assembly, I will be proud to be a voice for better, safer school environments across all of New Jersey.



Assembly

LINDA CARTER (D)

As a teacher I know firsthand the needs of our state's education professionals. I will do all I can to make sure teachers have EVERYTHING they need to help cement the future of our state: our students. I have not stopped fighting and will be our union's largest advocate to help our state's educators.



JAMES J. KENNEDY (D)

As the spouse of a former Rahway Public Schools kindergarten teacher and a long-time supporter of NJEA, one of my top priorities is to ensure that a New Jersey education remains among the best in the nation. I will continue to be an advocate in the Legislature for school funding, pensions/health benefits, and ensuring we provide the proper support for teachers, educational support professionals, and students at all public schools during these unprecedented times.

LD 21



Senate

JON BRAMNICK (R)

The pandemic presented once-in-a-lifetime challenges for educators and support staff. I stand with the NJEA and their membership as we continue working together through these problems to provide world class education to the students of New Jersey. I thank the NJEA for endorsing my campaign and look forward to our ongoing partnership.



Assembly

ANJALI MEHROTRA (D)

As a long-time parent volunteer, I am honored to receive the endorsement of the NJEA. Once elected, I look forward to working with the NJEA to uphold our status as the nation's top-ranked public school system. One of my top priorities is funding computer science for all, so our next generation will have the skills necessary to compete in the digital economy.



NANCY MUÑOZ (R)

I look forward to continuing my relationship with the NJEA and educational professionals. I believe schools are the foundation of our communities. We need to work together to ensure a safe and productive environment for our children, teachers, and educational support staff.

LD 25



Senate

ANTHONY BUCCO (R)

I was proud to be prime sponsor of the bipartisan Chapter 44 legislation recently signed into law. I am honored to have the endorsement of the NJEA and look forward to continuing to support the teaching profession and maintaining one of the best public education systems in the country.



Assembly

AURA DUNN (R)

As a teacher, I know firsthand the needs of our state's education professionals. The dedication of NJEA in helping our children navigate through the hard-hitting pandemic greatly impressed me and showcased the vital role that teachers and staff play in our society. I am grateful for this endorsement and look forward to continuing to empower the education community.

LD 22



Senate

NICHOLAS P. SCUTARI (D)

I have spent my entire legislative career as an advocate for our state's teachers. They are the backbone of our educational system and the pathway in which students succeed. As a former teacher I am committed to the betterment of our schools, equity in funding, and I will always have our teachers' backs.

LD 26



Senate

CHRISTINE CLARKE (D)

I am an environmental advocate, a grassroots organizer and a mother-of-four running for state Senate to build the job-creating clean energy economy, advance a green recovery from COVID-19, protect clean air and water, improve health care and lead with empathy and fiscal sense. Learn more at clarkeforsenate.com.



Assembly

PAMELA FADDEN (D)

As a parent, teacher, and local association president, I will work in Trenton to make sure our children (and educators) have a safe learning (and working) environment, genuine mental health services, necessary special education and less high-stakes testing. I look forward to a New Jersey where the American Dream is a reality for all regardless of their identities!

LD 27

Senate

RICHARD CODEY (D)

I've always been proud to stand with NJEA. I'm also proud of my wife, an NJEA member for over 30 years. Teachers and ESPs are the backbone of New Jersey's public schools. We owe it to them to live up to our obligations and provide the tools needed to succeed.



Assembly

MILA JASEY (D)

The knowledge and wisdom New Jersey's teachers and educational support professionals impart is the cornerstone of our individual and collective accomplishments. They support us, challenge us, celebrate us, unleash our potential to achieve and hold the key to securing our future. They have made our public schools the best in the nation, and I am gratified to have earned the NJEA's endorsement.



JOHN F. MCKEON (D)

As all eyes are upon New Jersey's public schools, I am proud to have worked to ensure that the FY22 state budget included a record-high pension payment, a \$624 million increase in state school aid and COVID protocols to protect the health and safety of our students and the teachers and education support professionals who so ably serve them. I thank the NJEA for endorsing me.



LD 28

Senate

RONALD RICE (D)

I'm honored by NJEA's endorsement and grateful for our continued partnership. I'm especially proud of our commitment to nurture New Jersey's students in a diverse, inclusive environment and of establishing civics and Amistad curricula. Combined, they foster greater understanding of America's living, evolving history and our individual responsibility for justice.



Assembly

RALPH R. CAPUTO (D)

I have supported public schools as a teacher, administrator and legislator. My record reflects these principles: full SFRA funding, collective bargaining, and sensible—rather than over-the-top—testing that is not the only tool used to evaluate teachers. I will continue to support full pension funding. My bill (A-5886), which is now law, Alyssa's Law, requires panic alarms in all public schools. I am committed to promoting educational initiatives that improve public education.



CLEOPATRA G. TUCKER (D)

Thank you for your continued support. While I am elected to serve residents of the 28th district, the legislation I support has a statewide reach. I will continue to do what is right for not only the teachers in our state but also the Education Support Staff that make educating our children possible. Thank you for your service.



LD 30

Assembly

SEAN T. KEAN (R)

I am pleased to be an NJEA-endorsed candidate for the General Assembly in District 30! Thank you to all the teachers and school staff that make New Jersey's schools the best in the nation. I greatly appreciate your support and all the hard work you put in to help our students learn and grow.



EDWARD "NED" THOMSON (R)

I am honored to have the support of the NJEA and the education professionals who make our public schools the best in the country. Our economic success is dependent on a high-quality education system and I look forward to continuing to advocate for our hard-working public school employees.



LD 31

Senate

SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM (D)

I look forward to continuing a productive relationship with the NJEA. As chairperson of the Senate Higher Education Committee, I am aware of the necessity to support our teachers and our educational support professionals. We all need to work together to provide a solid education for our New Jersey students.



Assembly

WILLIAM SAMPSON (D)

As a product of Bayonne's public schools and a fellow union member, this endorsement by NJEA means so much to me. I know how hard your members work especially in these challenging times. If elected, I hope to hear more about the issues that matter to you.



LD 32

Senate

NICHOLAS J. SACCO (D)



As a former teacher and school administrator and longtime NJEA member, I'm proud to be an advocate for public education, fair school funding and keeping our promises to public employees. I have always stood up for teachers and voted to increase school funding and fully fund the state pension system. I will always continue to be a voice for public schools and against vouchers and against for-profit schools.

Assembly

ANGELICA JIMENEZ (D)



Thank you to NJEA members for their endorsement. It is my pleasure to work alongside NJEA and continue to advocate for all of our teachers, education support professionals, and students. I am committed to continue to advocate for all those in education who positively impact the lives of our youth and whose efforts are the foundation on which this state's future rests.

PEDRO MEJIA (D)



As we struggle through the COVID-19 pandemic together, I have made it a top priority of my office to serve every and all constituents, especially the educational support professionals, support staff and teachers of the NJEA. I would like to thank you and your 200,000 plus members for your endorsement.

LD 33

Assembly

ANNETTE CHAPARRO (D)



Now more than ever, I recognize that educators are working harder and managing an even more complex workload. I'm incredibly thankful for NJEA's endorsement in my election and am grateful for our partnership since I've been in office. I'm always happy to see New Jersey's union of educators and school support staff members with an important seat at the table.

RAJ MUKHERJI (D)



I am deeply appreciative and humbled to receive the endorsement of our state's dedicated educators and am committed to working with them as an advocate for our public schools.

LD 34

Senate

NIA H. GILL (D)



As we continue to navigate the pandemic, we must support our teachers and educational support staff by providing them the resources they need to protect themselves and their students. We must fully fund our schools and pension system. We must safeguard and strengthen the right to collective bargaining. I am committed to standing with NJEA for our teachers, our communities, and the future of our children.

Assembly

THOMAS P. GIBLIN (D)



I am first generation American born. I, my children and grandchildren have been the beneficiaries of all this great country and state have to offer. New Jersey's education system has always provided a superior opportunity to those who wish to learn. I will continue to be a supporter of New Jersey's teachers, educational support professionals and NJEA.

BRITNEE N. TIMBERLAKE (D)



I would like to take this opportunity to express my most sincere gratitude for NJEA's endorsement. As the proud daughter and niece of public school educators, I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Legislature to ensure that New Jersey remains at the forefront of the strongest public school systems in the country.

LD 35

Senate

NELLIE POU (D)



During 24-plus years in the Legislature, I've focused on improving our youth's education, addressed the dropout rate, advocated for STEM and robotic courses, and funded apprenticeship programs and mental health services among other resources for students, ESPs, and teachers. Recently, I sponsored 50 NJEA supported bills and voted in favor of all 60 NJEA supported bills on the Senate agenda.

Assembly

SHAVONDA SUMTER (D)



Educators and educational support professionals play an essential role in the lives of our students and our ever-changing society. It is imperative that we continue to ensure that educators and support professionals have adequate resources to continue to transform the lives of our youth.



BENJIE WIMBERLY (D)

My wife and I are long-time educators in Paterson Public Schools. The pandemic showed the inequities in our urban school districts when it came to technology and access to basic Wi-Fi services. However, I am proud to say that most students were able to keep up and push forward to excel. You can count on me to fight for the teachers and ESPs, who have taken on the position to make a child's life better through education.

LD 36

Senate



PAUL SARLO (D)

Words cannot express my appreciation for the hard work that our teachers and educational support professionals have done over the past year to keep our children educated during these unprecedented times. I will continue to advocate for providing funding to maintain a safe school environment and supplying the tools needed to educate our children.

Assembly



CLINTON CALABRESE (D)

NJ teachers and educational support professionals continue to demonstrate their profound impact. Through virtual, hybrid, and in-person learning, our educational professionals have shown steadfast dedication, resilience, and adaptability during these incredibly challenging times. Thank you for all you do and thank you for the much-appreciated endorsement.



GARY SCHAER (D)

I am once again honored and humbled to receive the endorsement of NJEA. I hope to continue working towards the betterment of our educational system, for our children and our educators.

LD 37

Senate



GORDON M. JOHNSON (D)

This November, I am asking you to support my candidacy for the state Senate. If elected, I will continue to fight for our public schools, ensuring that every child can receive a quality education. New Jersey's future is bright, and I hope to continue my part in shaping it.



Assembly

SHAMA A. HAIDER (D)

I am beyond grateful for the educators and educational support professionals who work so hard to equip their students with the knowledge and skills they need for successful careers and fulfilling lives. As a proud supporter of public education, I'll always fight for the men and women who inspire our children and make a real difference for our communities.



ELLEN J. PARK (D)

Educators and educational support professionals are the backbone of Bergen County's outstanding public schools. In the Assembly, I'll always stand with our educators and educational support professionals and support the great work they do to ensure every child in our state receives the world-class education they deserve.

LD 38

Senate



JOSEPH A. LAGANA (D)

As the father of children who attend the public schools in Paramus, I see firsthand the incredible work our educators and support staff do. Thank you so much to the NJEA members for your support of my candidacy. I look forward to working with you on behalf of our shared values.

Assembly



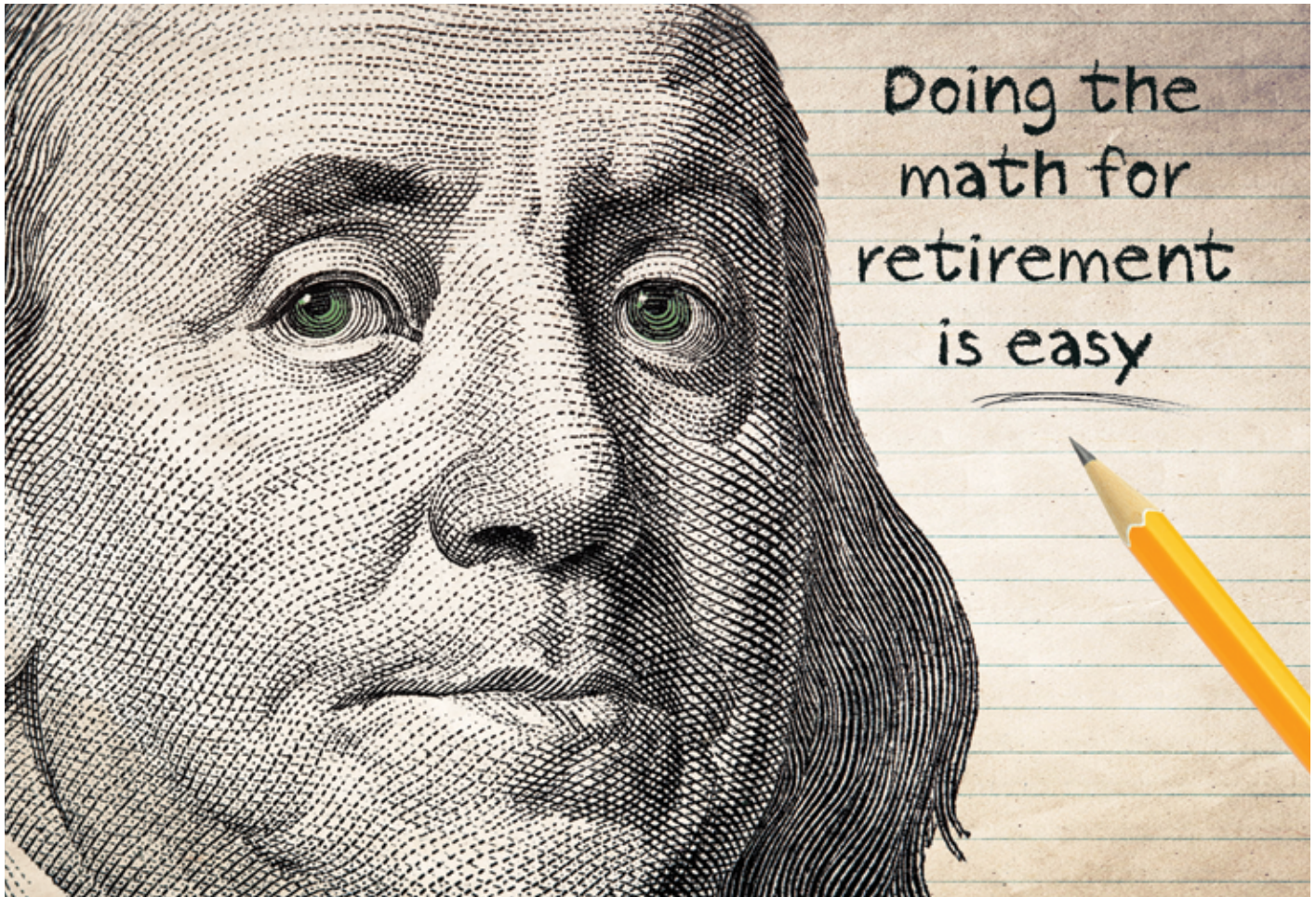
LISA SWAIN (D)

I have deep gratitude for this endorsement and look forward to working with NJEA. I have always been one of the strongest advocates for our educators and educational support staff, from my time as a parent of two children in the public schools and member of the PTA, to my time as a local councilwoman who worked closely with the local education association.



P. CHRISTOPHER TULLY (D)

Every time I look at my son, who will soon be entering the public school system, I am reminded that we need to make investments today for the education system of tomorrow. I will always have the backs of New Jersey's educators and educational support staff, and I thank you for having mine.



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LD 39

Senate

RUTH DUGAN (D)

I am a lifelong problem solver. Throughout my career, my advocacy-driven work has led me to serve in leadership roles in a number of different sectors, including health care, cancer support, and education. I am running for Senate to bring a fresh perspective to Trenton and to usher in a new day in District 39.



Assembly

KARLITO ALMEDA (D)

As a product of the Mahwah public school system, I know what makes our education system the best—our teachers and staff. If elected, I will fight for additional state funding, protect our educational staff's benefits, and ensure that the safety for faculty and students is paramount as schools reopen.



MELINDA IANNUZZI (D)

The public school teachers of New Jersey are an asset for the Garden State. I am pleased to have received the endorsement of NJEA and look forward to working together to support public education in the state of New Jersey.



LD 40

Senate

KRISTIN M. CORRADO (R)

It is an honor to receive the endorsement of the New Jersey Education Association. Our schools are stronger when we support our teachers. I will continue to advocate for educators across our state, fighting to ensure our public school employees have the tools they need to provide the best education for all New Jersey students.



Assembly

CHRISTOPHER DEPHILLIPS (R)

I am honored to have received the endorsement of NJEA. As a state legislator, I have consistently supported our teachers and educational support professionals. With your support, I will continue to do so in my next term.



KEVIN ROONEY (R)

It is important that we pay attention to the unique needs of all our schools in our communities, especially during these trying times. The essentials of good education are the same everywhere: a rigorous curriculum, effective instruction, adequate resources, willing students, and a social and cultural climate in which education is encouraged and respected.



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