## ELECTION '15

## Candidates for State Delegate in 37th District

### David Bulova (D)

Incumbent
Town of residence: Fairfax
Age: 46

Family: Married to Gretchen with three children (Alex, Josie, and Grayson) Education: BA, Government, College of William and Mary; Master of Public Administration, Virginia Tech

Offices held, dates: Virginia House of Delegates, 2006-present; elected member, Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District 2004-06

Occupation and relevant experience: Project Manager, Amec Foster Wheeler Environment and Infrastructure

Community involvement: Board member, Brain Injury Services; board member, City of Fairfax Band; honorary member, Rotary Club of Centreville; co-chair, Middleridge National Night Out, 2002-08; former coach, Fairfax Little League; past chair, Fairfax County Consumer Protection Commission, 1997-2004; former member and treasurer, Rotary Club of Annandale, 1999-2002.

Website: www.davidbulova.com Email: info@davidbulova.com Twitter handle: @DavidBulova Name three favorite endorsemen

Name three favorite endorsements: Virginia Education Association; Virginia League of Conservation Voters; Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it? There is no greater responsibility than for elected officials to leave our democracy stronger for future generations. Unfortunately, extreme gerrymandering has resulted in few swing districts in Virginia, which means that many elected officials are more concerned about primaries than general elections. This has contributed to political gridlock. I support taking politics out of the redistricting process through the creation of an independent redistricting commission so that the voters choose their elected representatives, and not the other way around.
- 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you? I am a consensus builder with a record of achievement on important community issues, including working in a bipartisan manner to pass new funding for transportation and to reform our education Standards of Learning (SOLs). During the past 10 years, I have worked hard to be open and accountable to district residents through town hall meetings, constituent surveys, and informal coffee hours.
- 3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there? I take very seriously the expectation of my constituents that when I am in Richmond I will work for the common good and look for ways to improve the quality of life for all Virginians. For ex-



ample, this past year I teamed up with Governor McAuliffe and Delegate Tim Hugo to pass a Virginia Solar Energy Development Authority that will remove barriers to creating new jobs in this rapidly expanding industry. I am proud of my reputation as a consensus builder, which has resulted in my appointment to several commissions

that deal with issues directly affecting Fairfax residents, including the Joint Commission on Health Care, State Water Commission, and Virginia Housing Commission.

## 4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

My priorities include: (1) continue to diversify Virginia's economy and create an environment where small businesses can thrive; (2) ensure that new transportation revenue is used effectively and oppose efforts to toll I-66 inside the Beltway without adding capacity; (3) continue to reform the SOLs and change state formulas to ensure that our schools get their fair share of funding; (4) protect our natural resources for future generations; and, (5) give law enforcement the tools they need to combat human trafficking and identity theft.

## 5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

My district has changed both geographically and demographically. During the 2011 redistricting, my district changed to include areas such as the Government Center and parts of Centreville. My district has also become much more ethnically diverse. One of my priorities is to ensure that these new immigrant communities feel welcome and become civically engaged.

6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans? Yes. As the former chair of the Fairfax County Consumer Protection Commission I believe that there is no place for this type of predatory lending that traps individuals and families in a cycle of debt.

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care? Yes. The transition from foster care is extremely important to the long term success of the child. For similar reasons, in 2014 I supported legislation to allow Court-Appointed Special Advocate volunteers to continue assisting youth in foster care past the age of 18.

#### 8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

Yes. Virginia is already sending our taxpayer dollars to Washington to pay for this expansion. Nearly 15% of Virginians under age 65 do not have insurance. When these individuals do need care, they use expensive emergency services or let the problem get worse. We should get our money back to help up to 400,000 Virginians get the health care that we are already paying for.

## Sang Yi (R)

Challenger, House District 37 Town of residence: City of Fairfax Age: 34

Family: Wife Sarah, Daughter Evelyn
Education: B.S. Logistics & Intermodal
Transportation – U.S. Merchant Marine
Academy; M.A. National Security &
Strategic Studies – U.S. Naval War
College; J.D. George Washington
University Law School

#### Occupation and relevant

**experience:** Senior aide on Capitol Hill; Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy Reserve **Community involvement:** Board Member & City Representative, Fairfax ASAP Policy Boa

City Representative, Fairfax ASAP Policy Board; Former 2nd Vice Commander, American Legion Post 177; Fairfax Lions Club; Past President, Cameron Glen HOA

**Website:** www.SangYiForDelegate.com **Email address:** Sang@SangYiForDelegate.com **Twitter handle:** @SangYi

Name three favorite endorsements: Former Congressman Tom Davis; Congresswoman Barbara Comstock; Delegate Tim Hugo

#### **OUESTIONS:**

## 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

I want to preserve the American Dream and grow opportunities for everyone. As an immigrant from South Korea, my family and I benefited from all that our nation has to offer. In order to keep opportunities available for future generations, we must ensure that our schools remain adequately funded and prepare our students for higher education and the workplace. To properly fund our schools, as Northern Virginians, we need to fight for more of our share from Richmond and boost our economy as a whole.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you? As a government professional, officer in the Navy Reserve, and community leader, I have brought people together from diverse backgrounds to accomplish common goals. If elected to the House of Delegates, I will use my political and government experience and leadership skills to actively promote the interests of the people of the 37th district. Recently, I reviewed the proposal to toll some I-66 commuters \$17 per day, and along with House Leadership, stand opposed to this unworkable plan that will burden our families' budgets and not alleviate our traffic congestion problems. We need fresh ideas and new energy to dvocate for us in Richmond.

## 3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?

I believe it is important to keep in mind that political parties may have opposing ideas, but are



not "enemies." As a Capitol Hill aide, I endeavor to engage in bipartisan cooperation and civil discourse on many matters of national importance. As a Delegate, I will put people over politics, and always keep in mind what is best for Fairfax rather than partisan politics.

## 4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative pri-

a. Stand against tolling I-66 commuters up to \$17 per day.

With an increased tax burden already being footed by Fairfax residents, the 2013 landmark transportation funding bill raised taxes to improve our infrastructure. Now, we potentially face more burdens on our household budgets, while not alleviating traffic congestion.

b. Help alleviate traffic congestion by promoting more teleworking, improving use of technology, access to mass transit, and focusing on investing in high impact areas.

c. Reformulate the Local Composite Index (LCI) to achieve fair funding for our students.

d. Streamline and clarify business regulations to make it easier for small businesses to understand and comply with them.

e. Increase government accountability by reforming the Joint Legislative Audit Review Committee (JLARC).

## 5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

The 37th district has seen tremendous growth. With more young families seeking better home prices and quality schools, the 37th is a wonderfully local and diverse community just miles away from Washington, D.C.

**6.** Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title **loans?** We should find a balance that protects borrowers from predatory practices while also keeping various loan mechanisms accessible to those who need them.

## 7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

Improving educational and health outcomes for foster care children is an important concern. I am open to supporting funding for Fostering Connections while keeping in mind limitations on Virginia's budget requirements.

#### 8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

According to reviews of some Medicaid expansion states under Obamacare, enrollment numbers greatly surpassed projections. Especially given the eventual phase down of federal funding for expansion, the current statistics should alarm Virginians. Virginia cannot afford hundreds of millions or even in the billions of dollars in overruns that some other states already face as enrollment states.

## Information on Voting

Virginia Law allows voters to vote absentee if they could be "working and commuting for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day."

You're allowed to count your worst possible commute in estimating how many hours you might be working and commuting on Election Day. If you qualify, you can vote early in-person, see sidebar above.

On Election Day, Nov. 3, polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

You can check your registration status online by going to www.sbe.virginia.gov.

Each voter in Fairfax County can make choices in one State Senate district, one

House of Delegates district, Clerk of the Court, Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, District member of the Board of Supervisors, Fairfax County School Board at Large (vote for 3); District School Board member; Soil and Water Conservation Board (vote for 3); School Bond for \$310 million, Public Safety Bond for \$151 million. http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm

It's also worth noting that new, more restrictive voter identification regulations took effect last year. Voters arriving to the polls without required photo ID will be al-

lowed to vote a provisional ballot and will have until noon on the Friday after the election to deliver a copy of identification to their locality's electoral board in order for their provisional ballot to be counted. Photo ID requirements also apply to absentee voters who vote in-person in all elections.

Here are the "acceptable" forms of identification: Valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; valid U.S. Passport; Other government-issued photo identification cards (U.S. government or Virginia); valid Virginia college or university student photo identification card; employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter; Virginia Voter Photo ID Card obtained through any local general registrar's office.

"Valid" is defined as a genuine document, bearing the photograph of the voter, and is not expired for more than 12 months.

Any registered voter may apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID Card will have to complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad.

#### For More Election Information

Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ elections/upcoming.htm 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax,

Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

## House District 41

## Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41)

Incumbent, unopposed Town of residence: Springfield Age: 51

Family: Married to Bob Corn, two children: Jeremy and Alana Education: B.A. Ithaca College, J.D. American University

Offices held, dates: Member, House of Delegates, 2010-present Occupation and relevant

experience: Director of Government Relations, Albers and Company. Member: Commerce and Labor Committee, Finance Committee,

Transportation Committee, Governor's Climate Change and Resiliency Update Commission, Health Insurance Reform Commission, Joint Commission on Technology and Science, Joint Commission on Transportation Accountability, Virginia Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation.

**Community involvement:** Current Chair of Jobs for Virginia Graduates, Virginia State Director, Women in Government. Member, Women's Legislative Network Board for National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL). Center for Public Policy Innovation's (CPPI) Board of Directors and the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes' Board of Directors. Past Member, Board of Directors for the 2015 World Police and Fire Games in Fairfax County.

Website: www.eileenfillercorn.com Email address: Eileen@eileenfillercorn.com Twitter handle: @EFillerCorn

Name three favorite endorsements: Virginia Education Association, Sierra Club, Northern Virginia Technology Council Tech PAC

#### **QUESTIONS:**

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

One of my proudest legislative achievements was the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act, which establishes 529-like savings accounts for families of people with disabilities. This bipartisan bill passed both chambers of the General Assembly earlier this year and was signed into law by Gov. McAuliffe. The federal version of the bill originated from the late Stephen Beck who was also a resident of the 41st District, and is considered to be one of the most important disability rights bills passed since the ADA. I was proud to patron the first state bill passed after the federal law was enacted. Making a difference in the lives of so many families remains my goal in office.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose

While I do not have an opponent this year, I have a long history of service to Virginia and Fairfax County. Since being elected in 2010, I am proud to have earned a reputation for working across party lines, while focusing on our schools, roads and maintaining public safety. Experience, knowledge, and strong relationships are critically important in this position.

3. Given the political makeup of the state



ity legislation.

legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?

While currently serving as the House Democratic Whip, I also believe in finding common ground in order to achieve results. I believe in bringing all sides of an issue to the table. When developing legislation, I often focus on building coalitions as we strive to find commonality and compromise. A reasoned approach and willingness to hear all sides is critically important in developing and passing qual-

4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

1. Education; 2. Economy; 3. Transportation; 4. Public Safety, including Gun Safety; 5. Advocating for the Disability Community

## 5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

Over the past 10 years, the 41st District has continued to be a great place to live and raise a family. While sequestration continues to affect our region, we have made great strides since the recession. Looking forward, it is important to me that we continue to diversify our economy and continue to fight for our quality schools, including the four high schools in the district: Lake Braddock, Robinson, West Springfield, and Woodson.

#### 6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?

Yes, I would support such legislation. While there are not many car title lenders in the 41st District, there's been an increase of them in Northern Virginia. It is very important that consumers need to be well aware of what they are agreeing to in the contracts they sign, and they should not be burdened with unnecessarily high interest rates and

#### 7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

I would be interested in looking at potential legislation. Related bills have been proposed in the Senate in 2014 and 2015, although I have never had the opportunity to vote on them. While they passed unanimously out of the Senate, both times the bills died in committee in the House.

#### 8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

Yes, I wholeheartedly support closing the coverage gap. I have spoken out vigorously on the Floor of the House of Delegates several times in support of Medicaid expansion. Virginia is clearly in the minority of states who have not expanded Medicaid. It's the right thing to do for Virginians and it's the right thing to do for our economy. The money is there. All we have to do is say yes.

## In-Person Absentee Voting: Vote Early

In-Person Absentee Voting Fairfax County Government Center

- Fairfax County Governmental Center Location, Conference Room 2/3, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Fairfax, VA 22035
- Through Oct. 30: extended hours: Monday Friday 8 a.m. 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31: 9 5. • In-Person Absentee Satellite Voting Through Oct. 30 - Weekdays: Monday - Friday, 3:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- **Satellite Locations:** • Franconia Governmental Center - 6121 Franconia Road, Community Room B, Alexandria, 22310
- Mason Governmental Center 6507 Columbia Pike, Conference Room, Annandale, 22003
- West Springfield Governmental Center 6140 Rolling Road, Community Room, Springfield, 22152

## House District 53

### Marcus B. Simon (D-53)

Incumbent, unopposed Town of residence: Falls Church Family: Rachel – Spouse, Emily –

Daughter, Zach - Son Education: Juris Doctorate.

American University; B.A. Middle East Studies and Journalism, NYU

Offices held, dates: Delegate (Va-53) 2014 - Present

Occupation and relevant experience: Real Estate Attorney, Ekko Title Co-Founder

**Community involvement:** 

Fairfax County Bipartisan Election Process Improvement Commission, McLean Planning Committee, Fairfax County Bar Association, Virginia State Bar

Website: www.MarcusSimon.com Email address: DelMSimon@House.Virginia.Gov

Twitter handle: @MarcusSimon

Name three favorite endorsements: 1) Virginia Association of Realtors, 2) Equality Virginia, 3) My "F" Grade from the NRA

#### **QUESTIONS:**

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Repairing the world. We live in a great commonwealth, in a great country at an incredibly exciting time in history — and we can do even better. We should continue to strive to improve our society, creating opportunities for everyone to succeed, and making sure the most vulnerable among us aren't neglected or left behind.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose

I believe I stand out from other candidates because of my ability to bring my vision for a more inclusive, prosperous, healthier Virginia about. As a successful small business owner, attorney, former Army prosecutor, and an experienced legislative staffer I bring a unique set of skills, experiences and qualifications that ensure I will be a successful Delegate.

3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully



#### bridge the intense partisan differences there?

As the member of the House Democratic Caucus with less seniority than all but two members of the entire House, I successfully collaborated with the very conservative Chairman of the Criminal Law Subcommittee to pass Virginia's Revenge Pornography statute at a time when only 3 other states has made revenge pornography a crime.

#### 4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

Student Loan Debt relief

Mental Health Reform

- \* Expanding Fair Housing protections to the LGBT community
  - Medicaid Expansion
  - Gun Violence Prevention

#### 5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

Over the past decade the 53<sup>rd</sup> house district of Virginia, comprising of Falls Church and Merrifield has grown a lot. We have seen a great influx in population to the region as a whole as well as several infrastructure and redevelopment projects. The demand for housing and private sector growth which is not reliant on federal spending has shifted what once was a purely commuter district to one of mixed business and community opportunities.

#### 6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title

Yes. I am particularly interested in ending the bait & switch practices of moving borrowers into unregulated "consumer finance loans" rather than better regulated car title loans.

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

Yes. I will not vote for a budget bill that does not include Medicaid Expansion.

## Fundraising Disclosures

Oct. 26 was the deadline for candidates in all local and Virginia state elections to file their last fundraising and campaign finance figures before Election Dav.

—Compiled by Tim Peterson

### **BOS Braddock**

John Cook (R), incumbent, total contributions and receipts: \$109,210 Top Donors:

\$9,800 - Citizens for Virginia's Future

\$7,550 - Michael Frey for Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

\$7,000 - Patrick Herrity for Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

\$5,000 - Gary D. Rappaport \$5,000 - Robert Frank Pence

Janet Oleszek (D), total total contributions and receipts: \$59,360

Top Donors:

\$5,000 - Janet Sloate Oleszek \$2,000 - Edward Y. Fu \$1,500 - Mid-Atlantic Laborers

\$1,250 - Edward Hart Rice \$1,200 - Chap Petersen for Senate

Carey Campbell (I), total: \$0

## **At-Large Supervisor** Chairperson

Arthur Purves (R), total contributions and receipts: \$13,466

Top Donors:

\$7,059 - Purves, Arthur Grahame \$2,000 - Irving, Thomas L.

\$1,000 - Abbott, Alida

\$500 - Bjarnason, Paul H. Jr

\$250 - Koerner, Gary Lee

Sharon Bulova (D), incumbent, total contribu-

tions and receipts: \$132,570 Top Donors: \$10,000 - Dwight C. Schar

\$10,000 - Richard W. Hausler \$10,000 - GBA Associates LP

\$6,000 - Millennium Investments and Devel Group \$5,000 - Firefighters - Local 2068

Glenda Gail Parker (I), total raised: \$0

### School Board Braddock

Megan McLaughlin, incumbent, total raised: \$4,949

Top Donors:

\$2,000 - Megan McLaughlin

\$1,250 - Va. AFL-CIO

\$1,000 - Democratic Party - Fairfax County

\$250 - Barbara Wallace Allen \$200 - Chap Petersen for Senate

Katherine Pettigrew, unavailable

## Senate District 34

## J.C. "Chap" Petersen (D-34)

Incumbent, unopposed
Town of residence: Fairfax City
Age: 47

Family: Married to Sharon Kim Petersen. Four children: Eva Emmeline (17), Mary Walton (13), Thomas Henry (10) and Ida Grace (4).

Education: B.A., Williams College.
J.D., University of Virginia.
Offices held, dates: Fairfax City

Offices held, dates: Fairfax City Council (1998-2002), Virginia House of Delegates (2002-2006), Virginia Senate (2008-present).

Occupation and relevant

**experience:** Practicing attorney since 1994. Owned local law firm since 2005.

Community involvement: Served in elected office since 1998. Also active as Sunday school teacher at Truro Anglican Church.

Website: www.fairfaxsenator.com Email address: chap@fairfaxsenator.com Twitter handle: @chappetersen



Name three favorite endorsements: Any three vo

**endorsements:** Any three voters in Fairfax.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it? In 2015, I sponsored the "Good Samaritan" immunity legislation, SB 892, which provides legal protection to young people who report an overdose or alcohol poisoning. It passed the Assembly and is now law. It will save lives. It

also teaches our young citizens in Virginia that no matter the circumstances — always do the right thing.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

Unfortunately, I have no opponent.

3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?

I worked with lawmakers on both sides of the aisle to pass major legislation, SB 985 in 2015, which set a standard on protecting personal liberty and curtailing government surveillance. (Sadly, it was vetoed by the Governor). I enjoy meeting people with different viewpoints and have no problem working with them.

## 4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

Promoting economic growth in Virginia, modernizing our tax system, advocating for commuters, keeping college affordable and protecting our natural spaces.

5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes? Geographically, the 34th district was shifted west

in 2011 and now includes 50,000 residents in Chantilly and Centreville.

6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?

Yes.

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?

Need to know more details. I'm not familiar with this program.

## 8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

Yes. I have voted for Medicaid expansion multiple times, most recently through the "Marketplace Virginia" project which used private insurers to certify eligible recipients and receive the Federal funds. It makes no sense to not use the Federal funds earmarked for Virginia's working poor.

## Candidates for State Senate in 37th District

### Dave Bergman (R)

Challenger, Senate in 37th District Town of residence: Centreville Age: 46

Family: Wife and two kids
Education: Annandale High
School – 1987, BA - James
Madison University – 1991, JD Widener School of Law – 1995
Offices held, dates: Never held
office before, first time candidate

Occupation and relevant experience: Vice President of Legal and External Affairs and Chief Legal Officer for the National Board for Certified Counselors

**Community involvement:** Youth Soccer Coach of 11 years

Website: www.bergmanforsenate.com
Email address: dave@bergmanforsenate.com
Twitter handle: twitter.com/DaveMBergman
Name three favorite endorsements: Sen. Dick
Black, Del. Tim Hugo

#### **QUESTIONS:**

## 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

I feel strongly about a lot of issues, but issues come and go. What is important in the long run are the principles I would bring to the task of representing the people of Fairfax County in the state senate. I believe government should be the court of last resort; many problems can be solved by people working together. I believe the more freedom and the less regulation, the better. I believe in lower taxes, more jobs, and a robust economy. I believe religious liberty is essential to our democracy. My call to service is driven by these principles that I will apply to any issue before the General Assembly.

## 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

We have policy disagreements in a number of key areas. I am adamantly against McAuliffe's plan to put tolls on I-66. He voted to take money from the roads and put that money into sidewalks (SB 932) and I think that's nuts. And on crime, there is vast chasm between our positions; I support truth in sentencing and no parole for violent offenders, and Marsden doesn't. I also support school choice for our families, while Marsden voted against educational savings accounts for disabled children. Dave Marsden is a good citizen; he's just wrong on some important issues.

## 3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggest you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?

The Virginia General Assembly is nowhere near as partisan as many other state legislatures because we have a part-time legislature; its members are

not professional politicians; and they all have day jobs. I think an open mind and a willingness to listen to other points of view is important in any legislative body. I have spent my career working with both parties to pass legislation and I will bring that to my job as your senator.

## 4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

Keeping taxes low. Improving transportation. Working to make our schools better and college in Vir-

ginia more affordable. Improving the mental health system. Preserving human freedom and curtailing the excesses of government.

## 5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?

The dirty little secret in the Virginia Senate is that in 2011 the Democrat majority in the senate gerrymandered the district lines to protect their majority. That's why this district begins in Lake Barcroft, snakes through 5 magisterial districts, and ends up near Dulles Airport. Ten years ago the 37th senate district was a lot more compact. I grew up here, and like anyone else who has been here this long, I have seen major good and bad changes. What hasn't changed is what the people want – good jobs, a good education for their children, safe streets and less traffic.

# 6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans? I dislike car title loan companies as much as the next person. However, these businesses would not exist if there were no customers, so they are filling a need. It seems our job is to make sure these companies are properly licensed and regulated and determine if there are better ways to fill the need.

## 7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care? I am whole-heartedly for any program that will encourage adoption.

## 8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?

When the government starts shelling out money somebody, somewhere, has to pay for it. Right now the feds are offering to transfer money from their treasury to Virginia's treasury to put more people on Medicaid, but there is no guarantee the money will continue to flow. And considering that the US government is running a deficit the size of the galactic empire, at some point the largesse will end, which means hard-working Virginians will end up with higher taxes. There is no pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, and the unicorns are not interested in paying our debts.

## Dave Marsden (D-37)

Town of residence: Burke

Age: 67
Family: Wife, Julia, and three sons
Education: W.T. Woodson High

and Randolph Macon College

Offices held, dates: House of
Delegates, 2006-2010; Virginia

## Senate 2010-present Occupation and relevant

experience: Technical
Assistance Director for DSG
working to reduce youth
violence across 10 major U.S.
cities. Former Director Virginia
Department of Juvenile Justice, probation
officer, and Superintendent of Fairfax County

Juvenile Detention Center.

Community involvement: Board Member
Fairfax County Court Appointed Special
Advocates (CASA), former President of the
Enterprise School and the West\*Lynch
Foundation. Started Virginia's first local secure
mental health/substance abuse program for
young offenders. Former coach and referee for
youth baseball, basketball, football, and soccer.

Website: www.marsdenforsenate.com Email address: david.marsden37@gmail.com Twitter handle: @sendavemarsden

Name three favorite endorsements: Fairfax County and Virginia Education Associations, Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, and Fairfax County Professional Firefighters Association

#### **QUESTIONS:**

## 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

I've dedicated my career to keeping Fairfax County and Virginia safe through numerous leadership positions in our juvenile justice system. As a legislator, I've continued that service by working to strengthen the juvenile justice system, starting an adult prison re-entry effort that will reduce recidivism and improve public safety, and cracking down on sexual predators.

## 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I'm pleased put my record of leadership and history of dedicated service to this community to the test for re-election. From my career choices to the number of hours I've spent volunteering in our neighborhoods to every vote I've taken as a member of the General Assembly, I've always put the people of Fairfax County first. I've worked with Republicans and Democrats to find solutions to issues, I've worked to bring back our tax dollars for our schools and roads, and I've fought for the values that we share here in Northern Virginia.

3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?



I have a long history of successfully working with Democrats and Republicans to get things done. I've led efforts to build consensus to balance the Commonwealth's budget without raising taxes. Every year you can find multiple examples of my efforts to put progress above partisanship. Three examples from this last year include: 1. SB1314 with Republican Delegate James LeMunyon, prioritizes congestion relief when VDOT is choosing transportation projects instead of a legislator's "pet" project. 2. SB1102

with Republican Senator Mark Obenshain, allowed Uber to legally and safely operate in Virginia. 3. SB1235 with Republican Delegate Dave Albo, is landmark legislation that allows someone suffering from intractable epilepsy to utilize non-psycho active medical cannabidial oils.

## 4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.

- Inproving funding for and reforming our education system.
- 2. Diversifying our economy so we are less dependent on the federal government spending.
- 3. Fighting against unfair tolling and continuing to invest in our transportation system to ease congestion.
- 4. Strengthening our juvenile justice system to ensure our communities are kept safe and advancing evidence based adult re-entry programming.
- 5. Continuing mental health system reforms so all those who need care receive it.

## 5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes? Fairfay County has long been a growing commy

Fairfax County has long been a growing community, that growth has brought new needs and new opportunities in transportation, education, and human services. I was glad to support the Silver Line and am currently looking at all alternatives to I66 tolls. We've invested more in education, public safety, and human services. Because of the great people who have made Fairfax County home, this is one of the best places to live.

## 6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans? Yes

7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care? Yes

7. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act?

Yes, I will continue to work with legislators from both parties and Governor McAuliffe to forge a solution to this impasse. Expanding Medicaid will provide health coverage for close to 400,000 Virginians and it is estimated to create \$1.9 billion in economic impact and 30,000 jobs. This issue is too important to our community and Commonwealth to allow us to forgo \$1.8 billion in federal funding that Virginia taxpayers are already paying.

The Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is the only at-large member of the ninemember board. Every resident is represented by the Chairman and their district supervisor. Questionnaires are also available on our website, www.connectionnewspapers.com.

## Candidates for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

## Sharon Bulova (D)

Incumbent

Town of residence: Fairfax **Age**: 67

Family: Married. Between my husband and I we have: four adult children and seven grandchildren.

Education: AAS Degree in **Business Management from** Northern VA Community College, attended business classes, UVA evening program, previously held Real Estate

Offices held, dates:

Elected Braddock (then called Annandale) District Supervisor in 1987. In February 2009

elected Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Re-elected in

Occupation and relevant experience: I am a full time Chairman. Prior to elected office I held positions in

Community involvement: I came to local government through my work as Civic Association president of Kings Park West. I have been a member of the Annandale Rotary, how serving as an honorary member. I am a founder of Faith Communities in Action and collaborated on two community history projects: A Look Back at Braddock and the Asian American History Project.

Website: http://sharonbulova.com/ Email address: sharonbulova@gmail.com Twitter handle: http:twitter.com/sharonbulova

Name three favorite endorsements: FEA (Fairfax Education Association), Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, Sierra Club

#### **QUESTIONS:**

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle

I love local government and feel strongly about community engagement. In my roles as Braddock Supervisor and now Chairman I have been committed to making sure our community is at the table with local government to participate in resolving issues and addressing our challenges. A major challenge right now is the sluggish recovery we are experiencing from the Great Recession. My goal is to strike the right balance between maintaining taxes that are affordable to our residents while investing what is needed to ensure a world class school system, safe streets and neighborhoods, compassionate human services, a clean environment and quality of life services like libraries and our fantastic park system.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I have the experience, the commitment and the enthusiasm to serve as Fairfax County's chairman. I believe I have the collaborative skill set needed to lead our Board and our community on an even, positive course.

3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.

Education continues to be my highest priority. It is however, not my only priority. It is critical that we continue to be the safest jurisdiction of our size in the U.S. and that we maintain the quality of life our residents value. Beginning in January our newly elected Board will engage in a multi-year Lines of Business process to examine all of our services in order to identify opportunities for efficiencies and savings. We have invited the School Board to participate with us in this process. I am hopeful that, working together, we will find new ways to economize on resources and improve on the delivery of services to families and

#### 4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the **Board of Supervisors?**

I am a full time Chairman. I work well over 40 hours per week plus countless hours of community and regional

## Glenda Gail 'for Rail' Parker (I)

Town of residence: Alexandria, Fairfax

County

Age: 68 Family: Three grown children, four Grandchildren

**Education**: MBA with a certificate in Software Engineering Administration

Offices held, dates: Elected to Vice-Chair, Independent Greens of Virginia (2007 to

Present); elected to COG TPB CAC (2007-2010) Occupation and relevant experience:

Governmental Budget Analyst, Businesswoman Community involvement: Fairfax Federation Civic Association Committee, Public Safety Chair (approximately 2009-2010)

Website: www.GailParker.US Email address: ggailparker@cox.net Twitter handle: @ggailparker Name three favorite endorsements: Independent Greens of Virginia

#### **QUESTIONS:**

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will

The Independent Green Party Green New Deal will get us on the right track. The Green New Deal means double- digit job growth in Eco jobs for the economy. Solar jobs. Wind jobs. Geothermal jobs. Rail jobs. The Green New Deal means Bike share for Fairfax County. Bikes, like rail, increase the value of our homes, businesses, and communities. The Green New Deal will bring Electronic VRE signs for commuters. The Green New Deal means New Tracks, More Trains, More often to More Places. The Green New Deal is solar panels, and geothermal heating and cooling for every public building. Renewable energy makes money for taxpayers.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose

My advocacy for Rail and renewable energy. Investments in Green Energy make money. The solar age is here and we want on-board! It is past time to bring the Green Revolution to Fairfax County

3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.

The infrastructure budget has too many subsidies to big oil, big asphalt, big auto, fossil fuels. Giving a half a trillion dollars in taxpayer subsidies annually worldwide to big oil is fiscal lunacy. Cut and reprioritize the infrastructure budget to invest in free solar energy and geothermal energy. Work harmoniously with the School Board to place money where it will do the most good, fund education costs and teacher salaries rather than administration costs Build Rail: Rail will grow revenues by growing the economy. Rail increases the value of our homes. businesses and communities. Every \$1 invested in Rail returns \$20 to the community!

#### 4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?

The new salary voted by the Board will allow me to devote full time to BOS duties.

### Arthur Purves (R)

Town of residence: Vienna

Family: Married 42 years, two children, seven grandchildren

**Education**: BA, MS, MBA University of Pennsylvania Offices held, dates: N/A

Occupation and relevant experience: Computer Programmer

**Community involvement**:

-President, Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance since

-Member, Fairfax County Meals Tax Task Force (2014) -Member, Hunter Mill Citizen Budget Committee

-Treasurer, Fairfax Committee 100

-Member Fairfax Branch, NAACP

-Past member of three Fairfax County Public Schools advisory committees

-Scoutmaster

Website: votepurves.org

Email address: Arthur@votepurves.org

Twitter handle: agpurves

Name three favorite endorsements: Del. Tim Hugo and Loudoun Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio

#### **OUESTIONS:**

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Only 59% of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) seniors are prepared for college, and the percent prepared varies from 75% for Langley High School to 20% for Lee and Mt. Vernon High Schools. In a quarter of a century FCPS has made no progress in closing the minority student achievement gap: only 35% of Hispanic and 20% of African-American FCPS seniors are prepared for college. Even if you don't go to college, being prepared for college makes you better qualified for a good job. The solution is better instruction in the basics; not more money. As county chairman I would hold the school board accountable for achievement when the school board makes its annual \$2B budget request.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

The incumbent chairman:

For 16 years has raised real estate taxes three times faster than household income, which is unaffordable, especially for seniors;

Does not hold the schools accountable for achievement;

Is indifferent to the disproportionate incarceration of Hispanics and African-Americans in the county jail; Sat silent for 17 months while the police department refused to disclose the details

of the shooting of an unarmed civilian by a police officer on August 29, 2013; Neglected maintenance of the now unsafe and unreliable Metrorail system to build

Since 2000 cut staffing of libraries and parks by 112 positions while adding 145 clerks to handle public assistance applications, for a total of 354 public assistance

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics job growth in Fairfax County was close to last of the 342 largest U.S. counties last year. I will grow jobs by cutting taxes; using the chairman's pulpit to advocate for higher achievement, including Hispanic and African-American achievement, through better curricula; being transparent; and making Metrorail repairs my highest transportation priority.

#### 3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or

For FY2017 the county and schools want to increase spending by \$240M while revenues are projected to increase only \$20M without a real estate tax hike. This predicament demonstrates the need for new leadership. Seventy percent of the spending increase is for raises (3.5% for county and 4% for school employees), Cadillac health plans, and pensions with retirement at 55. My opponent would raise real estate taxes 9%, pushing the typical homeowner's real estate tax from \$5,700 to \$6,200. She raised real estate taxes 8% last year. For 16 years the supervisors have been increasing taxes three times faster than household income. Since 2000, while school enrollment has increased 22%, the school budget increased 100%. County and school spending for health and pension benefits increased \$700M since 2000; that is \$400M more than needed to keep up with inflation, population, and enrollment. For 16 years the average annual raise for 30,000 county and school employees has been 4%. To pay for these raises and benefits, the supervisors have been increasing real estate taxes three times faster than household income. The revenue from the tax hikes was not enough to pay for the raises and benefits, so park and library staffing was cut and class sizes increased. And now teachers and police cannot afford the \$6,000 real estate taxes that were increased to pay for their own raises and benefits. To make Fairfax County affordable again, we need to cut taxes by reducing benefits and giving smaller raises, as is the case with private-sector employees.

#### 4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?

I can retire and be a full-time chairman.



## Candidates for Braddock District Supervsior

## Carey C. Campbell (I)

Challenger for Braddock Supervisor **Town of residence:** North Spring-

**Age:** 59

Family: wife

Education: B.A. University of Maryland European Division with honors. Accounting and Business University of Kentucky. German language and Political Science University of Freiburg,

Offices held, dates: State Chairman, Independent Green Party of Virginia 2000 to 2010; Fairfax Federa-

tion of Citizens Association Vice President circa 2005: North Springfield Civic Association, Braddock District Council; Executive Committee Independent Green Party of Virginia 2010 to present; National Chairman Committee to Draft Michael Bloomberg for Presi

Occupation and relevant experience: Accountant. Served as co-chair of the Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations Budget, and Transportation committees

Community involvement: North Springfield Civic Association, PTA, Traffic Calming Committee. Worked in the community for

Website: https://www.facebook.com/carey.campbell.33 http://www.votejoinrun.us/careyc.html

Email address: CareyChetCampbell@gmail.com

Name three favorite endorsements: Independent Green Party; Dr. Joseph Galdo, Green Party; Gail for Rail Parker, Independent Green Party

#### **OUESTIONS:**

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

The Green New Deal positive solutions eco jobs for the economy. Solar Jobs. Wind Jobs. Geothermal Jobs. Rail jobs. More trains less traffic. Bring Bike Share to Braddock. Walkable, bikeable, pedestrian, rail friendly communities. Cut taxpayer subsidies to big asphalt, big oil, and fossil fuel. Install money making renewable energy in all our public buildings. Build money making, revenue producing rail, and bike lanes.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponents and why should voters choose you?

I am an Independent candidate. I do not accept contributions from lobbyists, and the usual corporate campaign contributors. My loyalty is to Braddock District residents.

#### 3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.

Cut the massive taxpayer subsidies to campaign contributors and lobby crowd. They fund the incumbent's campaign. My positive solution is to invest our resources into our community, not campaign contributors. Keep our schools, police, and fire departments strong. Increase the value of our homes, businesses, and communities by building money making rail. Bring bike share to Braddock. Every dollar invested in rail returns twenty dollars to the economy. Rail grows revenue for our schools, police, and fire

We increase revenue by installing solar panels, and geothermal heating and cooling systems in all our public buildings. My home in North Springfield has 51 solar panels and geothermal heating and cooling. The first year installed it produced 10 times the energy it consumed. It's a money maker. Every quarter I receive on average \$1,200 in revenue from the profits that renewable energy produces. Every homeowner can do this. Every building in Fairfax County can do this. I'd cut the Economic Development Authority, and save millions of taxpayer dollars. I'd propose cuts in the county tech budget. In years of going door to door, I've had person after person tell me there is fat in that portion of the

#### 4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervi-

Zero. Braddock District Supervisor would be my only job.

## John C. Cook (R)

Incumbent Braddock Supervisor Town of residence: Kings Park

Family: Wife: Valerie. Children: Jessica, Šarah, Amanda, Laura, An-

Education: BA, Gettysburg College, 1985; JD, George Washington Univer-

Offices held, dates: Braddock Supervisor, 2009-present.

Occupation and relevant experience: Practicing attorney, 25 years. **Community involvement:** Kings

Park Civic Association president, 3 years. Kings Park/Kings Glen PTA VP, 2 years. FCPS Committee on Adult and Community Education, 3 years. BRYC coach, 2 years. Active in church.

**Website:** johncook4supervisor.com

Email address: johncook@johncook4supervisor.com

Twitter handle: @johncookva

Name three favorite endorsements: Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, Fairfax County Government Employees Union, Fairfax League of Conservation Voters.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Ensuring our Braddock neighborhoods stay safe and vibrant has always been, and will always be my first priority.

That means helping our community organizations, such as civic and homeowners associations, so they have the knowledge and resources necessary to work amongst themselves to improve their individual communities.

I have trained over 200 community leaders through our neighborhood college programs and meet regularly with our community leaders to provide guidance and assistance. Our communities matter because that is where we live, and our communities are the sum total of the effort we as citizens put into them.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I have proven myself as someone who cares about our community. Working with Chairman Bulova on our Diversion First program, we are seeking to provide treatment instead of incarceration for those who commit nonviolent crimes arising out of mental illness.

Together with county staff and non-profit organizations I have led on the issue of Domestic and Sexual Violence awareness and prevention. I also have a record of working with people to get things done. The joint Supervisors-School Board Infrastructure Financing Committee, which I served as co-chair, developed a plan that has generated additional funds for school renovations, realized through reprioritization of money, not additional taxes. As Chair of the VRE Operations Board, I am continually working with regional leaders to improve our long-term transportation options.

#### 3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.

I believe we should increase the transfer to our schools to four percent a year, an increase of what is currently being proposed by

To achieve this, I would hold county-side spending to two percent. Given that our employee compensation and many vendor contracts cost three percent more each year, that means most other county spending will need to stay near current levels. I would increase funding for mental health and public safety and hold other departments near level.

We need to find the funds for those increases through our lines of business review.

This series of 12 full-day meetings next January through March will look in detail at the budgets of each agency. I believe we should use that process to find necessary savings.

#### 4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?

Hard work is never easy and sometimes sacrifices are required. Often that means giving up the bulk of my personal time, and on occasion it means not spending as much time with my family as I'd prefer, but I always make sure to put into the job of supervisor all the time and attention it needs.

I am one of the most active Supervisors in the county, hosting meetings and spearheading community initiatives across the District on a regular basis, while offering great and responsive constituent service. That's where my focus is and I believe that's where it should

## Janet Sloate Oleszek (D)

Challenger Braddock Supervisor Town of residence: Fairfax

Family: Husband, Walter, Sons, Mark

Education: BA, University of California at Davis, M.Ed. American University Offices held, dates: Fairfax County School Board Member at Large, 2004-

Occupation and relevant experience: Legislative Assistant to

Congressman John E. Moss, Legislative

Aide to Delegate Kris Amundson, Legislative Aide to Delegate Kaye Kory, FCPS Teacher.

Community involvement: State Legislation Chair Virginia PTA, Fairfax County Council of PTA's Legislation Chair, Robinson Secondary PTSA Legislation Chair, Northern Virginia Board Member, Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership

Website: JanetForFairfax.com

Email address: janet@janetforfairfax.com

Twitter handle: @janetoleszek

Name three favorite endorsements: LiUna Mid-Atlantic, Northern Virginia Central Labor Council, LGBT Democrats of Virginia, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Local 301, Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, Fairfax FOP Lodge 77, Virginia NOW, United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 400, SMART Local 100

#### **OUESTIONS:**

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Education is an issue that defines me. I have spent over 40 years as an advocate for our public schools here in Fairfax County. I worked at the PTA level, before my election to the Fairfax County School Board in 2003. I believe our schools must be our first priority.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I am opposed to the Braddock Road expansion which John Cook has been an advocate for. The current county transportation plans seem to envision Braddock Road as a new major east-west roadway, similar to I-66 with an 8 lane layout. In my opinion this is a community road, not a transportation hub. I would strongly oppose the Braddock Road expansion and remove it from county transportation

3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.

It should concern voters that the budget gap anticipated for next vear is because of structural issues and does not anticipate any additional funding or services. Our teachers, public safety and other public employees earn salaries that are falling behind neighboring localities and we are losing some of our best young talent because of that. My top priority will be to find the revenue needed to fix the long term structural issues in Fairfax County. I will support a meals tax referendum as a way to begin that process, but I know we will need to go well beyond that to balance Fairfax's budget and meet our long term needs. One area that I would cut is part-time political employees of the County who earn full-time salaries. Taxpayers deserve a strong ethics reform in Fairfax County that prevents Supervisors from pulling \$95,000 a year salaries while working an-

4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors? None. I will serve as a full-time Braddock District Supervisor

### Election Notes

On Election Day, Nov. 3, polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7

To vote on Election Day, you must be registered at your current address. You can check your registration status online by going to www.sbe.virginia.gov.

In-person absentee voting begins Sept. 18, barely two weeks from now. Virginia Law allows voters to absentee vote if they could be "working and commuting for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day." You're allowed to count your worst possible commute in estimating how many hours you might be working and commuting

#### For More Election Information

Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, http:/ /www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm

## School Board Candidate For Braddock District

## Megan O. McLaughlin

Incumbent Braddock School Board member **Town of residence:** Fairfax

**Age:** 48

**Family:** Married with three sons; college sophomore, college freshman, and high school sophomore (W.T. Woodson) **Education:** Bachelor's Degree in American History, Univ. of Pennsylvania; Master's Degree in Social Work, Univ. of Maryland

**Offices held, dates:** Fairfax County School Board, Braddock District 2012-Present

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Former college admissions officer, family counselor, and community advocate **Community involvement:** Former co-founder and president of FAIRGRADE; former co-founder and chairman of the Fairfax Education Coalition; current volunteer/former team representative for Rutherford Summer Swim Team; Penn Alumni reunion committee member.

Website: www.megan4schoolboard.com

**Email address:** megan4schoolboard@gmail.com **Twitter handle:** @megan4schools

Name three favorite endorsements: Fairfax Education Association (FEA), Fairfax County Federation of Teachers (FCFT), Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC)

**OUESTIONS:** 

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Ensuring a quality education for all students is the defining issue for why I wish to serve a second term on the Fairfax County School Board. One of the most important factors related to a quality education is hiring and retaining quality teachers. Regrettably, FCPS teacher salaries are not competitive within the region. Together with my colleagues and Superintendent Garza, we must develop a strategic fiscal plan to substantively address this.

### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

During my four years of service on the School Board, I have worked tirelessly in support of many positive changes: hiring a highly effective and responsive superintendent, increasing employee compensation, implementing healthy high school start times, improving student discipline practices, hiring a new auditor general, restoring valuable high school honors courses, restoring full-day Mondays for elementary school students, promoting mental health and well-being, and improving collaboration with the Board of Supervisors.

## 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

As the 10th largest school system in the country, FCPS' student population continues to become more economically diverse. Therefore, I strongly believe in the value of community schools. This model provides wrap-around social services such as health, dental, counseling, and after-school care through a coordinated county/schools partnership. As a 3-

term member of the county's Successful Children and Youth Policy Team (SCYPT), I look forward to promoting the community schools model as well as finding solutions for reducing our county's extensive early childhood education waitlist.

## 4. How will you address the achievement gap?

I am very pleased that Superintendent Garza has

created a more robust program for reducing gaps in student achievement. I will continue to promote the implementation of nationally recognized instructional programs, as well as instituting rigorous measures for monitoring student achievement.

5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

It is essential that the Board of Supervisors and the School Board strengthen their collaboration around the issue of employee compensation. FCPS' has over 24,000 full-time employees and 90% of its operating budget is compensation-driven. In order for annual raises (for both county and school employees) to be fair and equitable, the County Executive and the Board of Supervisors need to develop a budget that incorporates both costs. In addition, both boards need to partner with our state legislators to advocate for increased state funding. In terms of priorities and cuts, I am committed to protecting funds for the classroom, including teacher salaries.

## 6. What value does FCPS add for taxpayers who do not have children in the schools?

Strong schools create a strong community. Specifically, residential home values are deeply tied to the quality of their local school system. Families and corporations often locate to Fairfax County because of strong schools. This in turn creates greater demand/higher values in the housing market, more jobs, and thus more taxable revenue to fund desirable county services.

## Katherine A. Pettigrew

Challenger for Braddock School Board member Did not respond

## Providence District Supervisor Linda Smyth (D)

Incumbent Providence Supervisor, unopposed **Town of residence:** Fairfax County

Age: 66

**Family:** Nigel Smyth, husband; Sefton Smyth, son **Education:** B.A., Washington University; M.A. and PhD, History, University of Virginia

Offices held, dates: Providence District Supervisor, 2004 to present

Occupation and relevant experience: Current, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors; Virginia Association of Counties Board of Directors; Metropolitan Washington Transportation Planning Board, Metropolitan

Washington Air Quality Committee; past, Fairfax County
Planning Commission

Community involvement: President, Briarwood Citizens' Association; Merrifield
Suburban Center Citizens' Task Force; Providence District Area Plan Review Task
Force; Vice Chair, Providence District Council; Chair, Vienna Metro Area Citizens' Task

Force **Website:** Linda.Smyth.com

Email address: Linda.Smyth@gmail.com

Name three favorite endorsements: Service Employees International Union, Sierra Club, Fairfax League of Conservation Voters

**QUESTIONS:** 

1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

The most significant issue to face Providence in the next four years will be the state's I-66 project. The scope of widening I-66 outside the Beltway, including replacement of bridges, will affect homes, businesses, and daily lives throughout the corridor. I have begun already to work with residents, county staff, and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to identify potential problems, ways to mitigate impacts, and improvements in communications. This process will continue from design through actual construction.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I don't have an opponent. But if I did have one, I would hope that my work with constituents over the past 12 years would persuade them to vote for me again.

3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.

Next year the Board of Supervisors will undertake an extensive Lines of Business review to evaluate all county programs with a focus on metrics to measure the effectiveness and efficiency of the programs. We will look at mandated and core functions as well as quality of life services. Through this process the Board will be able to set priorities, allocate funding, and make reductions where necessary. The state limits the type of revenue sources that localities can use. We need to maximize some existing sources of revenue (for example, more stringent enforcement of vehicle registration in Fairfax) while lobbying the state to fulfill its funding obligations, particularly in the fields of education and mental health.

4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?

None. My job as Providence Supervisor is full time for me.



Election Day is Nov. 3, and on that day, virtually every state and local office is on the ballot. In-person absentee voting is underway. Virginia Law allows voters to absentee vote if they could be "working and commuting for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day." You're allowed to count your worst possible commute in estimating how many hours you might be working and commuting on Election Day.

On Election Day, Nov. 3, polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m. To vote on Election Day, you must be registered at your current address. You can check your registration status online by going to www.sbe.virginia.gov.

Each voter in Fairfax County can make choices in one State Senate district, one House of Delegates district, Clerk of the Court, Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, District member of the Board of Supervisors, School Board At Large (vote for three) Soil and Water Conservation Board (vote for three), School Bond for \$310 million, Public Safety Bond for \$151 million.

http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm As of last summer, there are new requirements for voter identification that voters must bring with them to the polling place.

Virginia law requires all voters to provide an acceptable form of photo identification at the polls. Voters arriving to the polls without photo ID will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot and will have until noon on the Friday after the election to deliver a copy of identification to their locality's electoral board in order for their provisional ballot to be counted.

Virginia's photo ID requirements also apply to absentee voters who vote in-person in all elections.

Here are the "acceptable" forms of identification: Valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; Valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; Valid United States Passport; Other government-issued photo identification cards (must be issued by U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Com-

monwealth; Valid college or university student photo identification card, must be from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; Employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business; Virginia Voter Photo ID Card obtained through any local general registrar's office. "Valid" is defined as a genuine document, bearing the photograph of the voter, and is not expired for more than 12 months.

Any registered voter may apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID Card will have to complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad.

For More Election Information: Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

## School Board Candidates for Providence District

## Dalia Palchik

Challenger, Providence District School Board Town of residence: Annandale, VA **Age:** 32

Family: Parents, 3 siblings, 1 niece and 1 nephew Education: Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, Tufts University (B.A., French and Anthropology), Johns Hopkins Univer-

sity (post-bacc pre-med certificate). Offices held, dates: Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee and the Adult and Community Education Committee of the Fairfax County School Board (2014-15)

Occupation and relevant experience: World language teacher, medical interpreter, community health worker, media and communications direc-

Community involvement: Member, Board of Directors of Homeowners Association, Member, Providence District Democratic Committee, Providence District Council, Representative, Fairfax Federation of Homeowners Association.

Website: www.daliaforschoolboard.com

Email address: info@daliaforschoolboard.com Twitter handle: @DaliaPalchik

Name three favorite endorsements: Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, Fairfax County Democratic Committee, my 7-year old niece and FCPS 2nd-grader Marli.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

It's time to take action by working collaboratively with local, state and federal officials to solve our budget problems, reduce the achievement gap, and make sure ALL students in Fairfax can succeed in a global society. It's time to invest in classrooms and reduce high-stakes standardized testing. We must hold Richmond accountable for their lack of funding for education, change the LCI formula to bring back our tax dollars, and save long-term by expanding pre-K. I have already started this work, meeting with elected officials, local foundations, and thousands of residents in Providence district. We need to harness our local talent, and I plan on doing this by building a positive, proactive movement to raise awareness and improve partnerships to tackle these issues.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose

I spend every day in the classroom, facing the unique challenges that this presents. I also graduated from FCPS. My opponent has never been a full-time educator. We need a stronger perspective from educators on the School Board. I will bring my experience from the classroom to the School Board.

#### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

FCPS offers many wonderful programs like AAP, AP/IB courses, immersion, and high school academies, but not all students have the same access to

those programs. I will work to ensure all families are informed about opportunities in our schools. We must fully fund free and reduced meals, ESOL and special education programs that level the playing field and bridge the economic divide.

#### 4. How will you address the achievement gap?

As a teacher, I understand what FCPS needs to do to recruit and retain quality teachers in our most needy classrooms. I will work with the county and nonprofits in providing wrap-around services for families, and be more innovative in working with our business community. In Utah, Goldman Sachs is investing in "social impact bonds" in the form of Pre-K programs. They understand that by investing now, they'll receive a return through reduced special education services later. Increased Pre-K is the best way to close the achievement gap, and it saves taxpayer money. We need a system to expand Pre-

#### 5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be

I will work closely with our Board of Supervisors and state representatives to secure more funding for FCPS. I'm proud to already have strong relationships with every congressman, delegate and state senator in my district, and the Board of Supervisors Chair, all of whom have endorsed my candidacy. I will build on these relationships to secure funding for our schools. We also must examine where our funding is going now. I will look at ways to streamline transportation costs and administrative overhead. Above all, I am committed to fully funding our classroom programs, teachers, and students.

#### 6. What value does FCPS add for taxpayers who do not have children in the schools?

Our schools are the primary reason businesses and families relocate to Fairfax County, and they keep our property values high and our community vibrant. The strength of our schools affects the entire community, and on the Board I will increase partnerships between schools and the community so that both benefit. If elected, I will advocate for an economic impact study so the public and the business community understand how FCPS drives economic growth.

### Patty Reed

Incumbent Providence District School Board member

Town of residence: Oakton Age: 54

Family: Married, two children (FCPS graduates aged 24 and 21)

Education: Master of Public Administration. Syracuse University, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs; B.A. Psychology and Sociology, SUNY Albany

Offices held, dates: FCPS School Board 2009present; Board Budget Chair/ Co-Chair past 3 years; School Board/Board of Supervisors Joint Budget Development Committee and Infrastructure Financing Committee

Occupation and relevant experience: Successful 30-year career in government and management consulting; founder of Reed Strategies LLC; Co-founder of Choose2Lead Women's Foundation; 1983 U.S. Presidential Management Intern; 2012 graduate of Leadership Fairfax

Community involvement: Past President of Friends of Oakton Library; fundraising co-chair for Fairfax Library Foundation

Website: www.reed4schoolboard.com

Email address: pattyreedschoolboard@gmail.com

Twitter handle: @pattyprovidence Name three favorite endorsements: Fairfax Education Association, Fairfax County Federation

#### **OUESTIONS:**

of Teachers, Class Size Counts

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

The Board must resist the temptation to rush into decisions that are not based upon ample public engagement and analysis of accurate, unbiased information. We are entrusted with allocating public funds for the greatest public benefit. I will continue to push for more accurate projections and analysis of alternatives/impacts/costs.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose

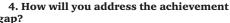
I have served on the School Board for 6 years, and have the knowledge, leadership skills and working relationships to confront the challenges ahead. Other discriminators include: non-partisan endorsements for this non-partisan School Board position; experience as FCPS parent and public school advocate; transformational changes made during my tenure, including hiring Superintendent Garza, first independent Board Auditor General, full-day kindergarten, full-day Monday, later high school start times, and "real food for kids"; and last, but not least, responsible fiscal stewardship of the \$2.6 operating budget as well as the capital budget program.

#### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

As a county, we must address the multi-faceted equity issue purposefully. We must acknowledge that organizational deci-



sions and actions are inter-related.



As a county, we must collaborate and focus efforts on actions that make the biggest difference, including preschool, literacy and wraparound ser-

#### 5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? and What are the top priorities and what could

My top priority is competitive teacher compensation. I also want to reduce those very large class sizes. While I cannot yet commit to specific cuts, important considerations include strategic priority, "bang for the buck", public feedback, and recommendations from the FCPS Budget Task Force. As a community, we should explore potential increased revenue sources (such as a greater share of our dollars from Richmond) but manage our budget by living within our means. Now that we have produced our Portrait of the Graduate, we must seize the opportunity to change what we do in FCPS and how we do it. For example, we must work with our business community and others to address the supply and demand of a specialized workforce, and maximize partnerships. We must make sure we are still teaching the basics but yet not lose the depth and breadth of offerings that has made our school system a place for all students to

#### 6. What value does FCPS add for taxpayers who do not have children in the

High quality public schools benefit the entire county, impacting property values, business and economic development, and the quality of life of our residents

## Voting Notes, Early Voting

An earthquake, hurricane, early snow, or just one of those cataclysmic traffic days could make it hard to vote on Election Day, Nov. 3. On that day, virtually every state and local office is on the ballot. In-person absentee voting begins is underway, and is a good way to ensure you have your say in this critical local election.

Virginia Law allows voters to vote absentee if they could be "working and commuting for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day." You're allowed to count your worst possible commute in estimating how many hours you might be working and commuting on Election Day. If you qualify, you can vote early in-person, see sidebar.

On Election Day, Nov. 3, polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

You can check your registration status online by going to www.sbe.virginia.gov.

Each voter in Fairfax County can make choices in one State Senate district, one House of Delegates district, Clerk of the Court, Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, District member of the Board of Supervisors, Fairfax County School Board at Large (vote for 3); District School Board member; Soil and Water Conservation Board (vote for 3); School Bond for \$310 million, Public Safety Bond for \$151 million. http:// www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/ upcoming.htm

It's also worth noting that new, more restrictive voter identification regulations took effect last year. Voters arriving to the polls without required photo ID will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot and will have until noon on the Friday after the election to deliver a copy of identification to their locality's electoral board in order for their provisional ballot to be counted. Photo ID requirements also apply to absentee voters who vote in-person in all elections.

## In-Person Absentee Voting: Vote Early

#### **Fairfax County Government Center**

• Fairfax County Governmental Center Location, Conference Room 2/3, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Fairfax, VA 22035. Oct. 13 - Oct. 30: extended hours:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Saturdays: Oct. 10, Oct. 17, Oct. 24 and Oct. 31: 9 a.m.

#### **Satellite Voting**

Oct. 13 - Oct. 30 - Weekdays: Monday -Friday, 3:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturdays, Oct. 24 and Oct. 31: 9 - 5.

**Satellite Locations:** 

Franconia Governmental Center -6121 Franconia Road, Community Room B, Alexandria, 22310

**Mason Governmental Center** - 6507 Columbia Pike, Conference Room, Annandale, 22003

West Springfield Governmental Center - 6140 Rolling Road, Community Room, Springfield, 22152

## ELECTION '15

## School Board Candidates At-Large

#### Omar Fateh

Town of residence: Annandale

Education: MPA from George Mason University

Occupation and relevant experi-Former ence: Campaign Finance Analyst at FEC, Former Academic Advisor/Assistant Instructor at Northern Virginia Community College



Community in-

volvement: Co-organize youth basketball league, Assist in developing tutoring programs at local

Website: www.fatehforschoolboard.com Email address: fateh4sb@gmail.com Twitter handle: Fateh4sb

Name favorite endorsements: Fairfax Education Association

**OUESTIONS:** 

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

The achievement gap. Our minority and economically disadvantaged students continually score 20-30 points below their peers on standardized tests. The dropout rate among economically disadvantaged students has nearly doubled in the last four years. First, standardized test scores should not be the main indicator of student progress or potential. Second, rather than having teachers teach to the tests, it is important for the School Board to give teachers the freedom to identify their students' strengths and interests. Finally, we must get parents involved, and to place responsibility on the students to succeed as well.

#### 2. Why should voters choose you?

The qualities that separate me most from the other candidates for School Board include the perspective I bring as a member of some of the County's many underrepresented communities (including the Somali and Muslim communities), as a former Fairfax County Public Schools student, and also as a former advisor to countless area students at Northern Virginia Community College.

#### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

Many parents in Fairfax County must work multiple jobs, and are not able to provide the full support needed by their children, such as attending school meetings and checking their children's work. It is critical for us to get parents as involved as we can, in part by meeting them on their terms and as much as possible. I will ensure that I am easily accessible to the entire community. Having worked with my local mosque to develop a tutoring program for our County's youth, many people within our community are willing to donate their time and efforts to help both academically, and in developing them as professionals.

Increased funding is necessary to meet the needs of an ever-expanding student body.

#### 4. How to address the achievement gap?

To begin addressing the issue in earnest, the School Board first needs compassionate representatives willing to understand and serve the needs of the full range of County students with new en-

#### 5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

Board members must also better engage their fellow elected officials to seek additional funding. The majority of the Board of Supervisors wants to fully fund our schools but the not coming in from Richmond. We need to work with state representatives to bring back our tax dollars. We must work first and foremost to provide additional funding. We must get both Boards on the same page, and put education- in other words, our children— first in Fairfax County.

## Jeanette Hough

Town of residence: Fairfax

Family: Husband, (Oakton graduate '97); Ryan (4th grade), Keri (2nd grade), Ethan (Kindergarten), Vader (rescue puppy)

Education: B.A in Economics; University of Virginia, Masters in Physical Therapy; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill



Occupation and relevant experience: Physical Therapist (Senior Therapist - mentor and leader role)

Community involvement: Volunteer in children's elementary school, local homeless shelter, church, and with meals and holiday gifts through Our Daily Bread, volunteer with kid's sports and activities, Manna Meal coordinator, PTA

Website: jeanetteforschoolboard.com

**Email** address:

Jean ette for school board @gmail.com

Name three favorite endorsements: Class Size Counts, Former Congressman Tom Davis, Congresswoman Barbara Comstock

**QUESTIONS:** 

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Responsibility to the community defines my call to serve. That responsibility comes with engaging the community members, being fiscally responsible and setting clear priorities. Authentic engagement includes holding office hours and citizen town halls throughout the year, not just showing up to ribbon cuttings and planned events. Our community deserves more transparency with FCPS' \$2.7 billion operating fund. I will prioritize reducing large class sizes, not with one-time fixes the way my opponents have, but with long-term planning. I will prioritize competitive teacher salaries. Our teachers' salaries have fallen behind compared to surrounding counties. Instead of making it a real priority, the Board raised their own salary by 60%.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponents, why should voters choose you?

My opponents either do not have children or have not had children in FCPS for a long time. As the mother of children in graduating classes of 2023, 2025, 2027, I bring a unique insight into our school system. I bring an Economics degree when we face a shortfall of over \$70 million for FY17 due to failing to enact budgeting best practices.

#### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

Part of the growing divide comes from parallel decisions made by the Board of Supervisors. It is imperative to have a new School Board that can build trust with the Board of Supervisors. With a better relationship, the two Boards can work together for our community and all of our children.

4. How to address the achievement gap? Under current leadership, the achievement gap continues to be substantial. We cannot keep electing the same people and expect a different result. We need to provide a rigorous curriculum to all

students and allocate resources for objective gains. We need to work with the community to provide wraparound services and empower parents to help

#### 5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

FCPS' projected shortfall is 2.5% of the operatyears to hire an auditor general and has refused to do a line of business review. My top priority is to ensure clear metrics and objectivity so we base cuts on educational impact and effectiveness, not on bias and popularity. We also need to look at FCPS' contract procurement practices. I will bring leadership to the Board so we cut waste and inefficiency, not proven programs.

### Manar Jean-Jacques

Town of residence: Fairfax

Family: My family is originally from Egypt and my wonhusband, Thierry, is from Haiti. We have been married for 7 years and we have a two children, Thomas is 2 Mary is 8 and months.

Education: I hold a B.A. in Sociology from George Mason



Occupation and relevant experience: I

work at the Refugee Processing Center as a contractor for the Department of State. Since starting there 8 years ago, I have been known as a solutiondriven, out-of-the box thinker with creative solutions. In addition to my analytical skills, I bring a parent's perspective to the board. As a mom of two future FCPS students, my priority is ensuring the best education for children in FCPS.

Community involvement: I participate in local volunteer opportunities though my church, I spent time on the ground in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina assisting in disaster relief efforts and I spent time helping at an orphanage in my husband's hometown of Port-au-Prince, Haiti after the devastating earthquake in 2010.

Website: www.ManarForFairfax.com

Email address: Manar@manarforfairfax.com Twitter handle: @Manar4FFX

Name favorite endorsements: I have am officially endorsed by the GOP and Arab Commu-

**QUESTIONS:** 

#### . What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

As a first generation American, I cherish the importance of a government that listens to its people. I feel called to serve in my local government because the current school board is unresponsive to its constituents. I plan on involving the community in all board-related matters through regular town halls, PTA meetings, setting special time aside to meet with teachers and making myself readily available to the residents of Fairfax County via office hours, email and phone.

2. Why should voters choose you?

The incumbent at-large candidates either have children that have already graduated from FCPS or do not have children at all, the only way they take their decisions home with them is in their pockets. As a mom of two future FCPS students, my priority is ensuring the highest quality education for FCPS students so that our children have the best opportunities to thrive and be successful. I understand the frustration parents have with class size disparity, the need for more rigor in the classroom and the need for parents of this next generation to be respected and recognized as the primary educators of their children ... that is a perspective needed on the school board and it is one that the incumbents cannot offer.

#### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

It is important to keep rigor, class size disparity and staffing formulas at the heart of the conversation with the community. Working together, we can create solutions that address our county's challenges and needs. It is the responsibility of FCPS to educate all students in the county and shape them into productive members of the community.

4. How to address the achievement gap? Coming from an immigrant family and working daily to bring refugees to the U.S., I understand what education means for those seeking a better future for themselves and their families I am very concerned that the needle hasn't moved

on closing the minority achievement gap in years, despite \$65 million being poured into projects targeting the issue. The current board continually changes the name of these projects (Excel, PSI, Momentum, etc), making it nearly impossible to

SEE QUESTIONNAIRES, NEXT PAGE

### Ryan McElveen

INCUMBENT

Town of residence: McLean

Family: Married Education: M.A. in International Affairs, Columbia University; B.A. in Anthropology and East Asian Studies, The University of Virginia

Offices held, dates: School Board Member, At-large, January Present



Occupation and relevant experience: Assistant Director, John L. Thornton China Center, The Brookings Institution

Website: www.ryanforschoolboard.com

Email address: voteryanmc@gmail.com Twitter handle: @RyanLMcElveen Name three endorsements: Fairfax County

Federation of Teachers, Fairfax Education Association, Fairfax County Democratic Committee

**OUESTIONS:** 

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

I will remain a voice for the voiceless who don't know how to best resolve their concerns with the school system. One of my first actions on the Board was to push for the creation of a system to allow community members to submit YouTube video testimonies to be shown at our meetings. We became the first public Board in the country to implement this kind of feedback mechanism. I will continue engaging with the community in a transparent manner and with an open mind while working to improve our communications.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose

I have a track record of bringing significant and positive change to the school system in a short amount of time. I have focused on three major initiatives — improving school food (including the creation of a fresh food pilot kitchen and the system-wide study of our Food and Nutrition Services program), the internationalization working group (to help guide our work on implementing world languages and study-abroad opportunities), and the alumni networking action group (which has helped us map a path to create an FCPS alumni association). In my next term, I hope to see all of these efforts through to implementation.

#### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

FCPS is a tale of two counties, and this unquestionably has emerged as one of our biggest challenges. In Fairfax, more than half of our elementary schools sit above the socio-economic tipping point, proving that Fairfax has moved beyond localized poverty. To address this divide, the School Board must maintain its long-standing practice of targeting these communities with needs-based funding. Co-location of school and human services facilities, as has been piloted in Mount Vernon, is another way to tackle this community issue without spending significant additional county resources.

4. How to address the achievement gap? Our Board has remained steadfast in our support

of needy students and those who speak other languages at home by directing budget resources to these at-risk populations. We have made expanding early childhood opportunities one of our priorities, because we know that investments in the education of students at an early age pay dividends later in their educational careers (thus saving our system money). We must continue working with ne county to creatively fund and house th

5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to

SEE QUESTIONNAIRES, NEXT PAGE

## School Board Candidates At-Large

## Ilryong Moon

INCUMBENT Town of residence: Fairfax

Age: 58
Family: Father of 2 FCPS graduates

Education: Harvard, B.A.; William and Mary Law School, J.D.

Offices held, dates: At-Large School Board Member, 07/1995-12/

1995 & 2004-present; Braddock District School Board Member 1996-1999; At-Large Planning Commissioner 2000-2003.

**Occupation and relevant experience**: Attorney since 1984; Member, Board of Directors, American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras, 2000-2010; Member, Board of Directors, Montessori School of Northern Virginia, 1994-1995

**Community involvement:** Youth soccer coaching, Fairfax-Falls Church Regional Council of the United Way, Police Chief's Diversity Council.

Website: www.moon4schools.com
Email address: moon@moon4schools.com

Twitter handle: @Moon4Schools Name three favorite endorsements: My

Name three favorite endorsements: My family, Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, and Democratic Party

#### QUESTIONS:

## 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

We should prepare our students for global competition. They will not only lead our country in the future, but must be able to compete with the students from the other nations. I want Fairfax County to be the best place to live, work, and raise children. We need good teachers and must support them. We should challenge our students to do their best, meet their individual needs, and provide them with a broad curriculum, including in STEM and foreign language education.

## 2. What distinguishes you from your opponents; why should voters choose you?

Experience and unique perspectives. I have served on the school board for 16 years, including 3 years as chairman and 2 years as vice chairman, and also chaired budget, governance, personnel, and policy committees. Furthermore, I bring unique perspectives as an immigrant grown up in poverty, an English language learner, an attorney, and a small business owner.

## 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

All students should have resources per their needs. We should work more closely with the parents to help their children succeed. For the parents with language, cultural, or employment barriers, we should reach out to them more proactively. All students should have adequate access to digital devices and internet capability. We must also work with the County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission on housing issues not to concentrate high poverty students on certain areas.

# 4. How to address the achievement gap? Adequate resources, closer work with families, and high expectations for all students are needed. I support needs-based staffing. Resources should follow students' needs whether in opportunities, special education, or learning English as a second language. We need to equip, train, and educate parents to help their children succeed. Also, everyone should have high expectations for all students. We should expand early childhood education opportunities, working with the County, State, private sector, and community organizations.

# 5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPs and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

A community consensus on the school funding level should be built. I support the superintendent's work with the budget task force to gather commu-

## Burnette G. Scarboro

**Town of residence**: Alexandria (Fairfax County)

Age: Over 21 Family: Luther, husband; Children – Syreeta, Seneca and Stefanie

Education:
Johnson C. Smith
University, Charlotte,
NC; NOVA Community College; and
George Mason University, Fairfax, VA.



Offices held, dates: No elected office held Occupation and relevant experience: Fairfax County Public Schools – Family Engagement Representative; African Heritage Early Literacy Project Leader, Co-founder South County

ment Representative; African Heritage Early Literacy Project Leader. Co-founder South County Youth Network a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Member, Lt. Governor's Commonwealth Council for Childhood Success

**Community involvement**: Northern VA District PTA Director; Member, VA State PTA Board; Member, Chairman Bulova's Ad Hoc Police Review Committee; Coordinator, West Potomac-Mount Vernon School-Community Coalition

Website: www.burnette4schoolboard.com Email address: friendsofburnette@gmail.com Twitter handle:

Name three favorite endorsements: Dr. Larry Bussey; The Faith Community; and Mattie Palmore, Community Activist

#### **QUESTIONS:**

## 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

My desire to have equitable education for all students drives me to run, along with character education in all school pyramids.

## 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

Voters should choose me because I am embedded in the school system as an employee; family oriented and believe that students and families should not be judged by their geographical location.

## 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

First, we need to address the increase in families placing their children in private schools or homeschooling; second, the economic divide is a direct correlation of the type of businesses in a community, i.e., fast food establishments vs. Fortune 500; and, third – work on changing the mindset of judging others by zip codes.

### 4. How will you address the achievement gap?

The achievement gap should not exist. The history of public education clearly shows that that public education was not designed for people of color. The achievement gap came on the scene when schools were integrated. I can only address the problem when all stakeholders understand why the problem exists.

# 5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

FCPS and the BOS must work together to develop strategies to bring more businesses into the area and reduce the reliance on real estate taxes. Teachers know where cuts can be made and that is the group that I would begin my inquiries.

## 6. What value does FCPS add for taxpayers who do not have children in the schools?

A school system with a stellar reputation is sought by businesses and former school graduates to return and give back to the community. Taxpayers want to see "more bang for their bucks." Elect me to the school board and you'll see the plan in action!

## Theodore J. "Ted" Velkoff

#### INCUMBENT Town of Residence: Chantilly

Age: 61 Family: Wife, Dr. Patricia Velkoff; Daughters Catherine (South Lakes H.S. 2007), Elizabeth (Chantilly H.S. 2009)

Offices held, dates: At-Large

member of the Fairfax County School Board, January 2012 to present. Have served as Vice Chairman of the Board, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Budget Committee.

Occupation and relevant experience: Senior Software Architect at Integrity One Partners, Reston VA; previously with Lockheed Martin and IBM in Manassas, VA. M.A., Computer Science, Indiana University; M. Music, Conducting, Indiana University; B. Music, Composition, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

**Community involvement**: PTSA President, Chantilly H.S.; PTA Treasurer, Chantilly H.S., Rocky Run M.S., Poplar Tree E.S.; Treasurer, Pleasant Valley Preschool, Girl Scout Troup 2829. Volunteer, stage manager and occasional human prop, Fairfax Ballet.

Website: http://www.tv4sb.org Email address: ted@tv4sb.org Twitter handle: @TedVelkoff

Name three favorite endorsements: Supervisor John Foust, Senator Chap Petersen, Delegate Ken Plum.

#### QUESTIONS:

## 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Eliminate high stakes testing and replace with authentic assessments. We must the restore joy of teaching and learning that comes from projects, inquiry and communication. Recently inaugurated Portrait of a Graduate defines success not in terms of what students know, but what they can do with what they know.

## 2. What distinguishes you from your opponents and why should voters choose you?

I am proud of the work accomplished by the board of which I have been a member for the past four years. We hired a visionary and transformational leader in Dr. Karen Garza. We made much-needed changes to student discipline practices; solved the high school start time problem; and instituted full-day instruction in elementary schools on Mondays. My opponents have seldom, if ever, attended school board meetings or work sessions, and appear to have been motivated solely by disagreement with one action of the board last May. I have been an effective member of the school board by building relationships and brokering agreements on potentially contentious policy decisions.

## 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

We need to expand innovative programs in schools throughout the county, especially those in economically challenged communities. We must insist on rigorous instruction for all children in all schools, whether wealthy or poor, gifted or disadvantaged. I am deeply opposed to the punitive accountability measures imposed by the state and federal government, which are counterproductive. I am just as deeply committed to the principle that we in FCPS must do everything we can to meet the needs of all children.

#### 4. How to address the achievement gap?

The most important thing we can do is to achieve universal pre-school in Fairfax County. Nobel Prize economist James Heckman has demonstrated that high quality pre-school yields a 7 to 1 return on investment in less remediation and discipline issues over the career of a student.

5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS Questionnaires Continued from Previous Page and This Page

### Manar Jean-Jacques

evaluate the effectiveness of the programs. I would begin addressing the achievement gap by engaging teachers in the conversation and seeking their expertise.

5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

If elected, I would like to put a motion before the board to vote on giving back the 60% raise they voted themselves in the midst of this budget gap. I would also like to look at outsourcing FCPS jobs that do not directly impact the education of children inside the classroom. Outsourcing gives businesses in the community an opportunity to thrive and frees up money that we would have been paying into pensions to now be redirected back into the classroom.

## Ryan McElveen

## fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

FCPS cannot remain the system it is today at current levels of funding, and we won't realize that we've hit the breaking point until it's too late. It is well past time to diversify local revenue streams.

Beyond Fairfax, the School Board must take advocacy to the next level by coalition building with similar, like-minded districts and umbrella organizations throughout the state to push for a change to our state funding mechanisms. Additionally both Boards need to continue exploring legal recourse to obtain the education funding guaranteed by the Virginia constitution.

## Ilryong Moon

nity input. Both the School Board and the Board of Supervisors need to know where the community stands. We should also review our programs, practices, and operations to find savings. My priorities are to increase teacher salaries, lower class sizes, and challenge all students to do their best and prepare them for the postsecondary education and employment.

### Ted Velkoff

## and Fairfax County. What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

Because Virginia's antiquated form of government concentrates power in Richmond and marginalizes Fairfax County, the Board of Supervisors and School Board are pitted against each other by design. The Supervisors control school revenue; the School Board controls school spending. The County Executive proposes a revenue-based budget; the Superintendent proposes a needs-based budget.

The County Executive has told FCPS to "live within its means." In accordance with that budget guidance, the Superintendent will have to cut \$72M from the operating budget. The School Board has closed similar gaps by increasing class size and limiting employee compensation. This year I will not support a budget that is balanced on the backs of our employees.

Questionnaires have been edited for length. Full questionnaires are available at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com click on Elections.

Neither Peter Marchetti nor Robert Copeland, both candidates for Fairfax County School Board At Large, returned their questionnaires for publication.