

Candidates for State Delegate in 34th District

Kathleen Murphy (D-34)*

Incumbent

Town of residence: McLean

Family: My husband Bill Sudow and I are parents to six children

Education: BA Graduated Magna Cum Laude from American University

Offices held, dates: Delegate, 34th District (January 2015 - Present)

Occupation and relevant

experience: I am currently President of Johnson Murphy & Associates where I build legislative strategies for companies and nonprofits. I served as Associate Staff on Appropriations for Congressman Charlie Wilson and handled Defense and Foreign Affairs, served as Congressional Liaison for United States Agency for International Development, and was appointed Senior Advisor at the International Trade Administration in the US Department of Commerce.

Community involvement: I am a member of the McLean Citizens Association, the McLean Community Foundation, and serve on the fundraising board for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. I served on the Human Services Council for Fairfax County and on the Fairfax County Health Care Task Force. I am the Democratic Party Precinct Co-Captain for Langley precinct.

Website: www.murphyfordelegate.com

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Twitter handle: @kmmurphyva

Name three favorite endorsements: Fairfax Chamber's NOVABizPAC, Virginia Education Association, Northern Virginia Association of Realtors



differences there?

I have successfully worked across party lines and my legislative record demonstrates that. This past session I cosponsored, and voted for, important legislation introduced by Republicans and Democrats and didn't let partisanship get in the way of doing what was right for our district.

4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative

priorities.

1. Reforming the funding formulas for our schools
2. Fighting for Northern Virginia's fair share of transportation funding
3. Ensuring we are business friendly and help small business have access to capital
4. Protecting our children and families from gun violence
5. Promoting renewable energy and other innovative technologies

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

The population of Northern Virginia has increased significantly over the last 10 years. New residents are drawn, to our district specifically, by our quality of life and excellent school system. The extension of the Silver Line and the growth of the Tysons Corner business community are also contributing factors. Simply, the 34th is a great place to live and we need to work to ensure we provide the quality services are growing community deserves.

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

Yes. With more than 460 car-title loan operations in Virginia and interest rates reaching as high as 300%, this abusive high-interest lending must be addressed.

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. I am very supportive of measures that protect and support our most vulnerable children who are aging out of foster care. Virginia has already made great strides in educational stability for children in foster care but there is more work to be done.

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 support Medicaid expansion because it is morally right and fiscally responsible. I will vote for expansion and I will continue to advocate for it in Richmond and in the 34th district.

Craig A. Parisot (R)

*Challenger, House of Delegates
District 34*

Town of residence: McLean

Age: 41

Family: Wife Kristin, Son Jackson

Education: Bachelor of Arts from the University of South Carolina, MBA from California State Polytechnic University and post-graduate work at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government

Occupation and relevant experience: Mr. Parisot is the President and Chief Executive Officer of his third start up. He previously held executive leadership roles in two technology start ups, successfully growing and selling both, and was a founder and the Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer of Altamira Technologies Corporation

Community involvement: Mr. Parisot served in the United States Air Force in a combination of active duty and reserve roles from 1996 to 2005 working on science and technology programs, eventually separating at the rank of Captain. Craig is a current board member of Volunteer Fairfax and its most recent past President. Volunteer Fairfax focuses on developing leaders and promoting volunteerism in the region, and mobilizes Fairfax County's volunteer resources in the face of a natural disaster or other crisis. Craig is also on the Board of Directors of the World Police and Fire Games, which created an \$83 million positive economic impact for the region. He also sits on the boards of other for-profit and not-for-profit organizations.

Website: www.craigparisot.com

Email address: craig@craigparisot.com

Twitter handle: @craigparisot

Name three favorite endorsements: National Federation of Independent Business, Fairfax Chamber of Commerce NOVA BizPac, and Police Benevolent Association



bridge the intense partisan differences there?

I have always been one to run towards hard problems, both as an Air Force Officer and as a business executive. I have always been goal oriented. In business, you can't just walk away from the table. You must find solutions. We need a Delegate in Richmond with the experience and capacity to act. As a member of the majority, I have the ability to get things done — not as a partisan, but on the merits of the proposed solutions to our most urgent problems.

The Virginia way has always been one where elected officials and leaders across the state work together to get things done. This will be one of many things you will gain by sending me to Richmond.

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

Invest in Public Education; Reduce commute times; Fight tolls on I-66 inside the beltway; Improve Virginia's business climate; Pursue growth opportunities in the high technology sector

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

Our area is a very attractive place for people to live. Although, due to our proximity to the federal government, sequestration has had a devastating impact to our economy. Our cost of living continues to rise while traffic worsens. We must grow and diversify our economy, make the necessary investments in public education and solve the region's transportation problems. These are economic and quality of life issues. I am concerned about great people leaving our region because we have failed to address these issues in a meaningful way.

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

Virginia has made some progress in this area, but the question is have we done enough. I believe in finding the right balance between free market principles and providing accessibility to financing alternatives.

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 fully support ensuring that foster children are not forgotten about when they become young adults. We need to make sure those that truly need our help receive it. While I would not be opposed to federal funding, we must find ways to reduce our dependence on Washington.

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

We should focus on providing for people's healthcare needs exploring the array of alternatives available. The only responsible conversation about a solution incorporates the long term impact to the Virginia taxpayer and reducing our reliance on the federal government. Medicaid currently represents 21% of Virginia's budget and is our fastest growing line item. Simply expanding a broken system is not a long term solution. I have concerns about both the quality and cost of care and we must tackle the matter of reimbursement rates and fraud, waste and abuse. Virginia makes a significant investment annually in the healthcare safety net to ensure everyone receives the help they need and we should continue taking this approach while pursuing necessary reforms.

QUESTIONS:

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

Service before self is a deeply held value of great importance to me and as a third generation veteran, service has a long tradition in my family. I believe in the idea of the citizen legislator. That if we, as ordinary citizens, have something to offer our state or country in a time of need that it is our civic responsibility to offer ourselves in service to our neighbors. I think deeply about the challenges we face and, working together, will figure out ways to make meaningful progress to make our community stronger and safer.

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

This race for Delegate is one of stark contrast. I'm a Business Leader, having built two advanced technology companies, I deployed lifesaving technologies for our soldiers and first responders, promoted women into key executive leadership roles, and have provided salaries and health benefits for hundreds of families. I have first-hand experience in the technologies central to the Northern Virginia innovation economy, and essential to our future.

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

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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:

• **McLean Governmental Center** - 1437 Balls Hill Road, Community Room, McLean, 22101
• **North County Governmental Center** - 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Community Rooms, Reston, 20190

ELECTION '15

House District 36

Kenneth R. "Ken" Plum (D-36)

Incumbent, unopposed

Town of residence: Reston, VA
Age: 73

Family: Wife Jane, 4 children, 6 grandchildren

Education: B.A. Old Dominion University; M. Ed. University of Virginia

Offices held, dates: Delegate 1978-80, 1982-present

Occupation and relevant experience:

Retired. 30 years with Fairfax County Public Schools, Director of Adult and Community Education

Community involvement: Chairman, Dulles Corridor Rail Association; Trustee, United Christian Parish

Website: kenplum.com

Email: kenplum@aol.com

Twitter handle: @KenPlum1

Name three favorite endorsements: Northern Virginia Technology Council, NoVABiz PAC, Virginia Education Association, Equality Virginia

QUESTIONS:

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

I believe education is one of the most important functions of government. Currently we are underfunding our schools K-12 and higher education. I will work with the Governor and members of the General Assembly to restore funding to education including a greater investment in preschool education.

2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you? I currently do not have an opponent. I work very hard as a full-time legislator serving my constituents throughout the year.



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 been a part of every major compromise that has moved the Commonwealth forward including balancing the budget in 2004 and providing funding for transportation in 2013.

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

Increase funding for education; Make the Earned Income Tax Credit partially refundable; Expand Medicaid to close the coverage gap; Enact commonsense gun safety measures including universal background checks; Raise the minimum wage

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

Reston and western Fairfax have seen tremendous growth fueled in part by the Silver Line. The population has gotten younger even as the number of senior citizens is high. Population is more diverse.

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

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

Yes. Whatever compromise that is necessary to make it happen.

House District 34

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 Co. Bar Association, Virginia State Bar

Website: www.MarcusSimon.com

Email address: DelMSimon@House.Virginia.Gov

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



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 53rd 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 loans?

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?

Yes.

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.

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 you? 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

NEWS

Conservation Begins at Home

Three spots open to four running for key environmental and conservation board.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Three of four candidates will be elected as directors to the Soil and Water Conservation District on Nov. 3.

Three of the four candidates, Scott Cameron and incumbents George Lamb IV and Gerald O. "Jerry" Peters Jr., debated at the Great Falls Grange on Monday, Oct. 19.

The Great Falls Citizens Association hosted and ran the candidate's forum at the recently renovated Grange, which is now ADA accessible.

"Real conservation, the important work in conservation happens on the ground, happens locally,"

said Cameron.

Peters, of Great Falls, is an incumbent on the Soil and Conservation District Board. "I want to increase the sense of personal stewardship that people who own the land have for the land," he said.

Lamb has been the chairman the last four years. He thanked GFCA for hosting the forum and giving candidates in his race, usually overshadowed by races for supervisor, House of Delegates, state senator and the sheriff, among others, an opportunity to inform citizens of the board's work. Education efforts are top priority of the Soil and Water Conservation Board, he said.

Stephen L. Pushor, who is also on the ballot, did not attend.



Gerald O. "Jerry" Peters, Great Falls



Scott Cameron, Mount Vernon



George Lamb IV

PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

Why This Matters

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District was founded in 1945 by citizens concerned about conserving natural resources. They were established to develop programs to conserve soil resources, control and prevent soil erosion, prevent floods and conserve, develop, utilize and dispose of water. The group collaborates with Fairfax County and other partners to provide conservation information, technical services, educational programs and volunteer opportunities to residents on many aspects of water quality, nonpoint source pollution and stream health. See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/

The three were asked questions about fertilizers, deer management, and the responsibility and partnership between urban, suburban and rural districts in Vir-

ginia.

FOUNDED IN 1945 by citizens concerned about conserving natural resources, the Northern Vir-

ginia Soil and Water Conservation District is one of 47 conservation districts in Virginia and approximately 3,000 nationwide. "Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) were established in the 1930s to develop comprehensive programs to conserve soil resources, control and prevent soil erosion, prevent floods and conserve, develop, utilize and dispose

SEE CONSERVATION, PAGE 14

ELECTION '15

Senate District 32

Janet Howell (D-32)

Incumbent, unopposed

Town of residence: Reston

Age: 71

Family: married to Hunt Howell since 1966, two grown sons, 3 grandchildren

Education: BA in Government, Oberlin College; MA in International Relations, The University of Pennsylvania

Offices held, dates: Virginia Senate, 1992 to present

Occupation and relevant experience: Former teacher, former legislative assistant, current state senator

Community involvement: Prior to election to Senate, I was a PTA president (Forest Edge Elementary), chair of the State Board of Social Services, president of the Reston Community Association, chair of the Reston Transportation Committee, and various other positions.

Website: JanetHowell.com

Email address: SenHowell@gmail.com

Name three favorite endorsements: Virginia Education Association, Northern Virginia Technology Council, Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, Sierra Club



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

- ❖ Make certain taxpayer money is invested wisely
- ❖ Increase funding for education at all levels, from pre-K through higher education.
- ❖ Pass legislation to expand Medicaid or 400,000 uninsured Virginians
- ❖ Increase and improve programs for persons with mental illness
- ❖ Pass commonsense gun safety legislation such as background checks

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

Redistricting took away 40% of residents in my previous district and added 40% in new areas. Now the district includes part of Arlington and parts of Oakton and Centreville. The district is more diverse ethnically and has greater disparities in income.

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

Absolutely. I have consistently voted to put a cap of no more than 36% on interest on loans. The current laws bring undesirable businesses into our state that prey on vulnerable residents.

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. I have been an advocate for this program and fought for it in budget conference. When the state takes children away from their parents, we have a heightened responsibility to those children. All parents recognize that children need support beyond age 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, I have been a fervent supporter of Medicaid expansion and have worked across party lines in the Senate to find a solution agreeable to the House majority. So far, they have been unyielding in their opposition despite the moral, economic, and health arguments in favor of expansion. I helped craft the Marketplace Virginia proposal and am currently working on further refinements of it. The sad truth is that the opposition is unwilling to compromise or to produce their own proposal.

QUESTIONS:

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

During my tenure in office I have spearheaded several multi-year efforts to reform our laws. I was chief patron of the major family violence legislation, the mental health law reform efforts, and sexual abuse law revisions and the sexual predator registry. Currently, I am working to provide more services for those with mental illness and to divert them from our jails and prisons. Our current practices are cruel and costly.

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

Unopposed.

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 Senate has shifted control back and forth, I have consistently been selected by both parties as a budget conferee and negotiator on the most controversial bills (transportation, ethics, retirement plan reform, etc.).

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 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 voters in Fairfax.



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.

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?

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Soil and Water Board Members Also on the Ballot

FROM PAGE 13

of water," according to its website.

Although not a regulatory agency, the group collaborates with Fairfax County and other partners to provide conservation information, technical services, educational programs and volunteer opportunities to residents on many aspects of water quality, nonpoint source pollution and stream health.

They help connect residents with environmental initiatives and opportunities through the Watershed Calendar, Green Breakfast and Conservation Currents news updates.

PETERS WAS APPOINTED by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board

in March 2015 to be a director; he has been an associate director since 2009 and has represented NVSWCD on the Fairfax County Tree Commission since 2012.

Peters is retired after a 30-year career as an environmental scientist and engineer, including being the first full-time employee of the Occoquan Watershed Monitoring Laboratory in 1972.

In retirement, he has focused on natural resource stewardship, he said. Peters is a Certified Master Naturalist and member of the Basic Training Committee of the Fairfax Chapter of the Virginia Master Naturalist program.

"I am also a Tree Commissioner," he said.

LAMB HAS SERVED on the board since January 2009 and is currently the vice chair-

man and treasurer.

Lamb, of Falls Church, serves as an at-large appointee on the Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) and is the lead author on the Inter-relationship between Land Use and Transportation chapter of the EQAC annual report.

Lamb was a co-founder of the Fairfax League of Conservation Voters, and represented the environmental community on the Tysons Corner Land Use Task Force. He serves as the chairman of the IT Committee for the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

CAMERON, A BIOLOGIST who also has a M.B.A., has worked 36 years in environmental policy, including 20 years of federal

service in natural resources programs at the Department of the Interior, Office of Management and Budget, Congress, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Cameron, of Mount Vernon, founded his own organization, Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition. He is an environmental policy advisor to the governor of California, director of Conservation Policy for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and serves on the board of advisors to the Wildlife Alliance.

"We have 30 watersheds in Fairfax County, about a third are in good shape, a third are in really bad shape," he said, with the others in between.

"I've always wanted to get involved where it counts, locally," he said.

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 license

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 2011.

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

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](https://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 it?

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 students.

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 activities.



Glenda Gail 'for Rail' Parker (I)

Town of residence:

Alexandria, Fairfax County

Age: 68

Family: Three grown children, four Grand-children

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 you tackle it?

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 you?

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

Age: 66

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 1996
-Member, Fairfax County Meals Tax Task Force (2014)
-Member, Hunter Mill Citizen Budget Committee (2013)
-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](https://twitter.com/agpurves)

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

QUESTIONS:

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 the Silver Line;
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 positions.
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 reduce.

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.



School Board Candidates for Hunter Mill District

Pat Hynes

Incumbent
Town of residence: Reston
Age: 56
Family: Two children
Education: B.A. in Economics from the University of Virginia; J.D. from Vanderbilt University
Offices held, dates: Hunter Mill representative on the Fairfax County School Board, 2012 to now; current chair of the Fairfax County School Board
Occupation and relevant experience: teacher; former lawyer
Community involvement: president, F.B. Meekins Cooperative Preschool in Vienna; president, Louise Archer PTA; president, Malcolm Windover Heights Civic Association; founding member, Vienna Teen Center Foundation
Website: www.hynesforschoolboard.com
Email address: hynesforschoolboard@gmail.com
Twitter handle: @VotePat
Name three favorite endorsements: Fairfax County Federation of Teachers; Fairfax Education Association; State Senators and Delegates who represent Reston and Vienna

QUESTIONS:

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

As an educator, my goal is that we meet students' needs every day in every classroom. That means closing achievement gaps and offering challenging, child-centered instruction to all. We must recruit and retain a well-trained, respected and competitively compensated workforce. We must replace the high-stakes test score chase with skills-based teaching and assessment that will prepare our students to communicate well, collaborate, and solve problems creatively.

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

I was a classroom teacher in FCPS from 2003 to 2012, which gives me unique insights and strong connections to the classroom. My legal training is also an important foundation, as school boards work within many legal constraints. As a PTA and community leader for two decades in Vienna and Reston, I built broad networks and developed a good understanding of the community's goals and values. Finally, I have served on the FCPS school board for the last four years, this year as the chair of the board. This board has been active and productive. I hope to continue that good work with my colleagues and use my experience to tackle the challenges ahead.



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

FCPS must continue to provide resources to schools based on the needs of their students. But the school board should also be a more active voice in land use planning, to advocate for the kind of diverse communities that help schools thrive. With families from 200 countries and all socioeconomic backgrounds, our diversity is our greatest strength. As a county, we must manage that so that all children benefit.

4. How will you address the achievement gap?

The FCPS Strategic Plan sets an appropriately bold goal: to close all achievement gaps. The critical next steps are to set measurable objectives and implement more equitable practices. We must be more intentional about expanding pre-K, integrating classrooms, and having high expectations for all. We should post an equity scorecard, prominently on the FCPS website, with updated achievement results broken down by socioeconomic, language and learning disability subsets. That transparency will help the community hold us accountable for real progress.

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 is spending \$1,000 less per student, in real dollars, than we were seven years ago. Those cuts have come from teacher pay freezes, class size increases and significant cuts in central office support. It is time to reinvest. I will not vote for a budget that freezes teacher pay or raises elementary class size. If we find that revenues do not meet needs for 2017, my priorities will be guided by the broad community input we have already begun to gather. Longer term, it is essential that the school board and county board budget more strategically and more collaboratively, and that we modernize and diversify the revenue base.

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

A world class school system like FCPS draws businesses and families to the county from all around the country and the world. Good jobs and higher property values follow. Great schools are the most powerful public investment we make.

Mark Wilkinson



Town of residence: Herndon
Family: I've been married for twenty years. Our older daughter is a graduate of the University of Virginia and our younger daughter is a 2015 graduate of Westfield High School.
Education: Graduated from the United States Air Force Academy
Occupation and relevant experience: Currently I'm a technical program manager in Chantilly. Prior to this, I worked in federal service for over 35 years. Volunteer with the Diocese of Arlington as a Camp Contractor working with teens in providing construction projects for underserved Virginia residents. Habitat for Humanity and the St. Vincent de Paul Society.
Website: markwilkinsonforschoolboard.com
Email address: WilkinsonforSchoolBoard@outlook.com

QUESTIONS:

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

As a dad, taxpayer, and citizen, I believe that the children of Fairfax County must come first with any decisions made by the school establishment, particularly the School Board. It is my goal to be an independent and non-partisan advocate for children, teachers, and the taxpayers of Fairfax County. My plan is simple – reduce class size, increase teacher compensation, and close the achievement gap – which will improve the lives of ALL FCPS children.

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

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is the 10th largest school system in the United States, and it requires strong leadership and people who know how to manage government programs, and who understand policy, budgets, strategy, and contracts. These are the key activities of a school board member. I have 35 years as a public servant doing just that — managing budgets 5 times the size of FCPS's budget. I will demand accountability and transparency, and ask the hard questions that are necessary to ensure that FCPS does not lose its status as a world-class school system.

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

I would start with the Office of Program Evaluation — it is their mission to determine the effectiveness of FCPS programs. Why is it that the achievement gap continues to widen, and yet we continue to pour millions of dollars (above and beyond the federal and state requirements) into programs designed to help our neediest students? We need a fresh look at why they are not working. Instead of asking parents what to save, we are

asked what to cut — year after year. We need strong leadership that will SAVE the most important programs — those that have direct impact the classroom. In particular, our neediest students will benefit from additional funding for programs, like Project Momentum. Partnering with the community business on building maintenance, food services, custodial services have a potential for better value from competition and lower rates.

4. Address the achievement gap?

In addition to re-evaluating the programs designed to help our neediest students as described above, I believe that we need to offer competitive compensation for our teachers. The value of our public school system comes from great teachers. Talented teachers help motivate all kids to do their very best. Where is the funding going? Why is it not working? A teacher who recently quit from a Title 1 school said that he "gives up." He said he just could not connect and have educational success with his students. Someone needs to figure out why, and it should not be solely hoist upon our overstrained teachers.

5. What steps would you take to manage the budget gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

We need a scalpel to identify inefficiencies within programs, rather than proposing to axe programs like arts, music and sports. Such approaches only result in painful reductions in overall services provided to our school children. I propose that before we look at cutting programs, we should examine expenditures and their effectiveness.

We need fresh ideas to eliminate redundant, inefficient, and/or ineffective programs currently in the system. An online checkbook can improve transparency and accountability by showing the taxpayers where the money is going. A line item review, zero based budgeting, and tasking the auditor general to conduct performance-based audits will drive more dollars back to the teachers and into the classroom.

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

Fairfax County schools drive business, which increases home values. Fairfax County home prices are the highest in the region. The quality of schools in our community is a main contributor to home values. Importantly, about 53% of personal property taxes goes to the FCPS. This demonstrates the commitment that Fairfax County residents have to the education of their own children and to the common good.

Editor's note: These responses have been edited for length; the full version is available at www.connectionnewspapers.com.

Candidate for Hunter Mill District Supervisor

Catherine M. Hudgins (D)



Incumbent, unopposed.
Town of residence: Reston
Age: 71
Family: Two adult sons
Education: Bachelor of Science in Mathematics Education (University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff) and Masters of Public Administration (George Mason University)
Offices held, dates: Elected four terms as Hunter Mill District Supervisor—: 1999—present
Occupation and relevant experience: Mathematics teacher and technology professional
Community involvement: PTA
Website: cathyhudgins2015.com
Email address: cathy@cathyhudgins.com
Name three favorite endorsements: IAFF

Local 2068, Northern Virginia, Realtors PAC, SEIU Virginia 512

QUESTIONS:

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

I continue to see two Fairfax Counties: one exceptional place to live for some; the other where many are unable to take advantage of all of the assets available in the community. One reason

for this is the struggle to ensure adequate opportunity for affordable housing. The lack of affordable housing affects the homeless and under-employed, seniors, and those newly entering the workforce. Fund the Initiative to Prevent and End Homeless and increase affordable housing stock in 60% - 100% of AMI.

2. What distinguishes you from your

opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

While unopposed, I would respond to any opponent that my years of experience on the Board and in the community equip me best to address the issues in the next four years. I understand the issues, have worked effectively to provide the services and support policies that enhance quality the lives of Hunter Mill District and Fairfax County 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.

Top priority must be for the School and County

Boards to set priorities to ensure the best outcomes for all children and families. Nearly 65 percent of General Fund goes to services to children and families: fifty--three percent to FCPS and eleven percent in Health and Welfare (H&H). While it may not be possible to directly combine these dollars for direct services, better coordination of service to children and families is necessary. Begin by addressing achievement gap, disparities and implementation pre-K, all related to better outcomes for FCPS and H&H. Success in these areas alone can make not only budget impact, but also better outcomes for youth, families and the community and warrant necessary increase to succeed and stay on target.

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

I have been retired from outside employment since elected in 1999 and serve fulltime.

School Board Candidates At-Large

Omar Fateh

Town of residence: Annandale
Age: 25

Education: MPA from George Mason University

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

Community involvement: Co-organize youth basketball league, Assist in developing tutoring programs at local mosques

Website: www.fatehforschoolboard.com

Email address: fateh4sb@gmail.com

Twitter handle: Fateh4sb

Name favorite endorsements: Fairfax Education Association

QUESTIONS:

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 energy and ability.

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 dollars simply are 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
Age: 36

Family: Husband, Charlie (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 member

Website: jeanetteforschoolboard.com
Email address: Jeanetteforschoolboard@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 their children at home.

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 operating budget. The current School Board took five years 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
Age: 31

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

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

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 solution-driven, 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 through 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 Community Radio.

QUESTIONS:

1. 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 in the U.S. 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
Age: 29

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 2012-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

QUESTIONS:

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 you?

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 the county to creatively fund and house these programs.

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 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 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.

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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 restore the 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.