

Questions for Voters



to Ask at Candidate Forums, Events or Meetings

1. Those under 18 represent the population most likely to live in poverty. In New York 1 out of 5 of children live below the federal poverty level and twice as many live in families that struggle to make ends meet. What will you do to ensure that these children have their basic economic needs met?
2. The next generation has high chances of growing up less healthy, having more debilitating and costly chronic health conditions and living shorter lives than their parents. What actions will you take to ensure all children have access to affordable and quality health coverage and adequate nutrition that meets their needs?
3. Brain research and neuroscience have established that the first five years of life are critical for a child's social and cognitive development. What actions will you take to ensure all children start school ready to learn?
4. Research shows that youth involved in positive out of school activities are less likely to be in trouble with the law, less likely to get pregnant, and more likely to succeed in school. What actions will you take to ensure all children have access to age appropriate out-of-school opportunities and supports?
5. In New York, many youth leave foster care and the juvenile justice system only to enter the same or another system a short time later or become disconnected from school, work and community. What steps will you take to ensure that this population does not end up on the streets?
6. The New York State 2012 report card shows for 4th graders 40.6% did not pass the English Language Arts test and 30.8% did not pass the math test and in 2011 New York Department of Education released data showing only 37% of four year high school graduates statewide are college or career ready. What actions will you take to ensure that public school students are succeeding?
7. In New York each year there are approximately 168,000 reports of child abuse and neglect and 23, 182 children in foster care. What actions will you take to prevent abuse and meet the needs of this vulnerable population?
8. As New York becomes more diverse, disparities in child outcomes across racial and socio-economic groups become more evident, what actions will you take to ensure all children have equal opportunities for success?