



STAND FOR EDUCATION PUBLIC FORUMS

WHAT WE HEARD FROM ALBERTANS
SOLUTIONS TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC EDUCATION



KEY SOLUTION

Reduce Class Sizes & Support Complexity

"A cap on class sizes and more funding for support in our diverse classrooms is of the utmost importance."

- Alberta Teacher



KEY SOLUTION

Modernize Curriculum

"Put more emphasis on critical thinking and practical learning instead of rote memorization."

- Alberta Community Member



KEY SOLUTION

Provide Learning Supports

"Readily available mental health supports for students and families, including positions in each school dedicated to connection and re-engagement."

- Alberta Parent



KEY SOLUTION

Focus on Equity

"A strong public system is imperative if we are to remain a strong democracy. Every child should have the opportunity to develop their potential in a caring inclusive school."

- Alberta Grandparent



KEY SOLUTION

Invest in Public Education

"I would like to see funding that is stable and not dependent on which government is in power. We should not have to be debating funding and fighting for every dollar."

- Alberta Business Owner



**STAND
FOR
EDUCATION**

Learn more at:
www.standforeducation.ca

Below are ideas on how you can take action and advocate for the **Solutions to Strengthen Public Education!**

Show You're Standing Up

- Sign up to the "Stand for Public Education" campaign website (www.standforeducation.ca)
- Ask friends, family, teachers, school council members to get involved in the campaign.
- Share info and campaign materials through your social media networks

Speak Out With Others

- Plan a letter-writing party! Write an op-ed or letter to an editor.
- Host an informal event to discuss the campaign, and encourage others to get involved
- With a friend or as a group... Go door-knocking to promote the Stand for Public Education campaign.

Engage & Evaluate Candidates

- Host a 'Coffee With Your Candidate' or 'Pints & Politics' event (Don't forget to invite the media to your event and be prepared to be interviewed!)
- Meet with your candidates and ask them about their priorities for the future of public education.
- Volunteer and/or donate to candidates that commit to strengthening public education.
- Vote for the candidate who shares your values and will commit to strengthening and funding public education.

Question:

Where does your candidate stand on public education?

We are asking political candidates and their parties to make commitments to what we heard from Albertans in the public forums as '**Solutions to Strengthen Public Education**'. Some questions to start the conversation.

Solution: **Implement a plan to reduce class sizes and complexity.**

- Q: *How will you support children and youth with complex needs (social/emotional, behavioural, cognitive)?*
- Q: *What is your plan to reach the Alberta Learning Commission's (2003) class size requirements?*

Solution: **Develop a modern, inclusive curriculum.**

- Q: *What is your position on the new kindergarten to grade 6 curriculum?*
- Q: *Will you commit to implementing a new phased-in curriculum that was developed collaboratively with teachers, parents and other educational experts?*

Solution: **Give students the learning supports they need to develop their full potential.**

- Q: *What is your plan to provide increased support for students with exceptionalities?*
- Q: *How will you resource and support mental health in our public schools?*
- Q: *What is your position on funding and integrating full-day kindergarten and early childhood programming?*

Solution: **Create a more equitable education system.**

- Q: *What is your plan to ensure equitable supports for all students - especially Indigenous, Francophone, and our rural and remote schools?*
- Q: *Would your Party transfer current private school funding to support programs for students in poverty?*

Solution: **Increase investments in public education.**

- Q: *Will you commit to restoring public education funding to above the national average, and match funding to inflation and the growing number of students?*
- Q: *What is your plan to attract and retain professional teachers and other education workers in Alberta?*

Together, these solutions form a framework of action, each one a step along a path to a stronger, brighter future for Alberta's children and youth!

