



The Florida Coalition Of Virtual School Families

www.flvirtualfamilies.org

Why the 2008 Elections are Important to Virtual Schools

By **ROB SPANGLER**

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On Tuesday, November 4, Florida voters will vote in an election that will decide who the next President of the United States will be, as well as shape the makeup of the State Legislature. This election represents an opportunity for supporters of K-8 Virtual Schools to make their voices heard. While the Coalition does not endorse candidates, it is our mission to educate and inform our members and the public about where the candidates stand on the issues. In many key races, the candidates have varying views on issues critical to the future of Virtual Schools. This candidate survey serves to highlight those differences so voters can make an informed choice. We hope you find it helpful in casting an informed vote to improve education for children all across our great state.

What We Asked the Candidates

1 If it was shown to save tax dollars, do you believe virtual education should play a part in helping the state solve the class-size problem?

2 With the current economic state would you support virtual education as a way to help maximize valuable education dollars?

3 Would you support legislation that expanded the current K-8 virtual schools to K-12?

4 Last year the legislature passed a major bill revamping virtual education in Florida. One provision in the bill only allows students who attended a traditional Florida public school in the preceding year to enroll in a virtual school. This requirement eliminated the ability for parents to enroll their children in a kindergarten virtual education program, because it would be their first year of school. Would you support eliminating this requirement?

5 If you answered "yes" to question 4, would you support families who had previously homeschooled their child to come back into the public education system by enrolling their child in a virtual school program?

6 Do you support fair funding for all FL public schools, including Virtual School students?

7 If you said "yes" to question 6, would you support making sure virtual schools are funded at a level comparable to traditional public schools?

Where do the Legislative Candidates Stand

DIST/SEAT	CANDIDATE	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7
S 03	Charlie Dean	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Need More Info.
S 03	Susan Franks	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Need More Info.
S 11	Mike Fasano	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
S 25	Jeff Atwater	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
S 27	Matt Caldwell	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
H 05	Brad Drake	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
H 08	Robert Maddox	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
H 18	Ronald Renuart	Y	Y	Need More Info.	Need More Info.	Y	Y	Y
H 20	Doug Courtney	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Need More Info.	Need More Info.
H 21	Charles Van Zant	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
H 24	Barry Leach	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
H 24	Kurt Kelly	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
H 33	Franklin Perez	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
H 35	Dean Cannon	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
H 56	Rachel Burgin	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
H 67	Richard Jackson	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y
H 101	Matt Hudson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

KEY: Y = YES N = NO
H = State House of Representatives S = State Senate

Did Not Respond as of 10/24/08

S01 Tony Hill
S01 Louis Tart
S05 George Lovenguth
S05 Stephen Wise
S09 Darius Davis
S09 Andy Gardiner
S11 Fred Taylor
S17 JD Alexander
S17 Scott Thompson
S23 Morgan Bentley
S23 Nancy Detert
S24 Kendall Moore
S24 Thad Altman
S25 Linda Bird
S27 Dave Aronberg
S35 Dan Gelber
S35 Dean Santoro
H04 Clay Ford
H04 Lumon May
H05 John McDaniel III
H08 Alan Williams
H09 Peter Boulware
H09 Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda
H09 John Shaw
H10 Leonard Bemby
H10 Don Curtis
H11 Debbie Boyd
H11 Elizabeth Porter
H14 Mia Jones
H14 Sarah Lovett
H17 Lake Ray
H17 Regina Young
H18 Dave Smith
H18 Daniel Walsh
H19 Larry Jones
H19 Mike Weinstein
H20 Bill Proctor
H21 Linda Myers
H23 Charles Chestnut IV
H23 Bernie DeCastro
H26 Barry Flynn
H26 Pat Patterson

H27 Maureen Monahan
H27 Dwayne Taylor
H28 Dorothy Hukill
H28 William Smalley
H29 Wes McCarville
H29 Ralph Poppell
H30 Amy Tidd
H30 Ritch Workman
H32 Steve Crisafulli
H32 Tony Sasso
H33 Robert Acosta
H33 Sandy Adams
H35 Thomas Kelly
H36 Scott Randolph
H36 Stephen Villard
H38 Bryan Nelson
H38 Lonnie Thompson
H40 Todd Christian
H40 Eric Eisnaugle
H44 Jason Melton
H44 Sarah Roman
H44 Robert Schenck
H48 Peter Nehr
H48 Carl Zimmermann
H49 JP Quinones
H49 Darren Soto
H51 Janet Long
H51 Christopher Peters
H52 Bill Heller
H52 Ross Johnson
H54 Jim Frishe
H54 George Gonzalez
H56 Lewis Laricchia
H57 Yvonne Capin
H57 Faye Culp
H60 EJ Ford
H60 Ed Homan
H65 Bob Hagenmaier
H65 John Wood
H67 Richard Jackson
H67 Ron Reagan
H69 Laura Benson

H69 Keith Fitzgerald
H70 Doug Holder
H70 Sam Rosenfeld
H71 Betty Gissendanner
H71 Ken Roberson
H72 Judy Juliano
H72 Paige Kreegel
H73 Stephen Gray-Blancett
H73 Nick Thompson
H77 Elton Gissendanner
H77 Denise Grimsley
H79 Mike Horner
H79 Ray Worley
H80 Neal Abarbanell
H80 Debbie Mayfield
H81 Michael DiTerlizzi
H81 Adam Fetterman
H82 Catherine Hilton
H82 William Snyder
H83 Carl Domino
H83 Bryan Miller
H85 Joe Abruzzo
H85 Howard Coates Jr
H87 Adam Hasner
H87 Rob Ostrov
H89 Jeff Auslander
H89 Mary Brandenburg
H91 Elynn Bogdanoff
H91 Chris Chiari
H97 Todd Goberville
H97 Martin Kiar
H101 Maria Jimenez
H107 Luis Garcia
H107 Jorge Lopez
H110 Esteban Bovo
H110 Nancy Stander
H111 Erik Fresen
H111 Frank Morra
H112 Betty Gaffney
H112 David Rivera
H119 Michael Calderin
H119 Juan Zapata

There are many candidates running for office in Florida, and some were not able to respond to our questionnaire in a timely manner. Even though a candidate has not responded yet, it does not mean the candidate does not support virtual education programs. If you are unsure where your candidate stands on the issue, please feel free to contact them directly or please continue to visit the website for further updates.