

#190

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Page 1: ALL CANDIDATES: Welcome

Q1

Your information

Name	Sarah Cohen
Email Address	sarah.ann.cohen@gmail.com
Phone Number	9493947879

Q2**Yes**

I have read instructions at the top of this page

Page 2: ALL CANDIDATES: Campaign Contact Information

Q3

Campaign contact information

Candidate first name	Sarah
Candidate last name	Cohen
Campaign email	sarahforshorelineschools@gmail.com
Campaign phone (optional)	206-486-2043

Q4**Respondent skipped this question**

Candidate name pronunciation (optional)

Q5

Candidate pronouns (optional)

she/her

Q6 Respondent skipped this question
Campaign Manager information (optional)

Q7
Campaign Treasurer information (optional)

Treasurer first name **Abbot**
Treasurer last name **Taylor**
Treasurer email **abbot@abbottaylor.com**

Q8 Respondent skipped this question
Campaign Consultant information (optional)

Q9 Respondent skipped this question
Other Campaign Contact information (optional)

Q10 Respondent skipped this question
Other paid staff or full-time volunteers (optional)

Q11 Respondent skipped this question
Additional Campaign contact information (all optional)

Q12 Respondent skipped this question
URL to Headshot (optional)

Page 3: ALL CANDIDATES: Yes / No Questions

Q13 Yes
Are you a Democrat?

Q14

Yes/No Questions

	Yes / No / Qualifie d
Have you ever been a member of another political party?	No
Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission, or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?	No
Do you have a code of conduct for staff and volunteers?	No
If you have paid campaign staff, would you support them joining a labor union?	Yes
Is there anything from your past that might hamper your success as a candidate?	No
Do you support employees of your jurisdiction (e.g. your city's employees, the Port's employees, etc.) exercising their collective bargaining rights without fear of retaliation; including the right to bargain and strike for better working conditions and pay?	Yes
Are you willing to have yourself, your staff and your peers undergo training to understand and combat institutional racism and implicit bias?	Yes
Are you willing to have yourself, your staff and your peers undergo training to understand and combat sexual harassment?	Yes
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate fossil fuel PACs?	No
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate pharmaceutical PACs?	No
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate health insurance PACs?	No
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate building industry PACs; including the Building Industry Association of Washington (BIAW) and National Association of Home Builders?	No
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from police guilds or sheriffs' organizations?	No
Will you denounce contributions that you don't support from companies who support your campaign anyway?	Yes
Have you previously participated or will you be participating in a candidate training program like Institute for a Democratic Future or Emerge?	No

Q15

Respondent skipped this question

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

Q16

Please describe your background (education, employment, community and civic activity, labor union affiliation etc.)

I come to the Shoreline School Board with a background as a lifelong educator. I currently work at the University of Washington, where I design courses for professional and continuing education, as well as for current enrolled students. Prior to my current position, I worked at the UW School of Public Health, where I helped to educate public health professionals about community engagement, cultural responsiveness, effective leadership, and other topics. I earned a PhD from the University of Washington in 2012, and taught at the college level for more than ten years, where I was a member of graduate student employee and contingent faculty unions. In addition to serving as a Shoreline School District Director, I am also a board member of ShoreLake Arts (formerly the Shoreline/Lake Forest Park Arts Council), where I help to provide community access to creativity and artistic opportunities. I have two children (seven-year-old twins) in Shoreline Schools, and am also a member of their school's PTA.

Q17

Please describe your history of involvement (if any), with particular emphasis on the last five years, in local, regional, and/or state politics.

I was appointed to the Shoreline School Board in December. Prior to that appointment, my political involvement has been as a volunteer. I have attended meetings of the 32nd District Democrats, doorbelled for candidates, and distributed literature. I also served as a delegate to the 2020 virtual Democratic State Convention.

Q18

Please describe the progress of your campaign and goals. How do you plan to win?

My campaign message centers around my ability to help the District stay on track and work toward our goals after a tumultuous few months. Since I joined the board in December, we have not only safely reopened schools but also selected a new superintendent and begun the process of transitioning to new leadership. The coming years will be a time of change and possibility, and stability on the board will help ensure success. On the board, I will continue to work toward goals including improving equity and providing an excellent school experience to all students; strengthening community relationships and communication; increasing the focus on environmental sustainability; and ensuring fiscal stability during a time of challenging budget conditions.

Q19

What issues do you think deserve more attention from media or elected officials? How would you seek to remedy that through your campaign or when elected?

Our schools do tremendous work under very constrained budget conditions, and it is one responsibility of a school board member to advocate for the funding schools need in order to do their work and provide staff with stability and the ability to live in the communities they serve. The need for high quality, affordable child care is another issue connected to schools that I believe is vitally important for families, communities, and children, and one that I have advocated for and will continue to advocate for on the board.

Q20

How do you plan to involve all residents and engage all communities in the decision making process? How would you work with people who lack trust in our institutions?

Communication and community engagement have been high priorities for me on the board so far and will continue to be. I have been part of a communications workgroup on the board and have worked toward increasing access both to the board and to district administration. Some efforts are already underway to widen our reach and improve relationships with people and communities who have been less able to participate, including improved translation services, a communications advisory committee, and plans for listening sessions and focus groups. But we need to go further, by meeting communities in the places where they are, rather than expecting them to come to us, and by investing in ongoing, responsive, accountable relationships with community members, families, and students.

Q21

COVID has increased existing inequities. How will you use your office to support the most vulnerable? How would you promote an equitable recovery and create opportunity for all?

An equitable COVID recovery is a major challenge ahead of schools, and also an opportunity. COVID and remote schooling have exposed inequalities in our school system but have also enabled new learning and suggested possible solutions. For example, we have learned more about how the classroom environment feels unsafe for some students, who have had improved experiences learning at home - information that we can use to create more inclusive schools when we return. We can also continue some of the technological advances that have helped students learn at their own pace and policies that help students to catch up when they fall behind. As we move forward with plans for reopening schools fully, I will encourage district leadership to apply these learnings with a focus on improving disparities that affect the most vulnerable students within our system.

Q22

If elected, how will you use your position to address racial inequality, and advance an anti-racist agenda? How specifically would you support the Black Lives Matter movement?

Improving racial equity is a priority for me and for the entire current Shoreline School Board. For me, this commitment includes seeking out and elevating the voices of students and staff of color, looking at data and policies through an equity lens, allocating resources for improving equity, and advocating for ambitious, accountable systems changes to close outcomes gaps and improve the subjective experiences of students and staff of color. It also includes supporting the ongoing implementation of a Black Lives Matter at School curriculum, as well as additional changes across the curriculum to increase diversity and inclusion.

Page 5: ALL CANDIDATES: Jurisdiction and Position

<p>Q23</p> <p>Position Sought</p>	<p>School District Director</p>
<p>Q24</p> <p>Jurisdiction</p>	<p>Shoreline</p>
<p>Q25</p> <p>Position number</p>	<p>3</p>

Page 6: KING COUNTY OFFICES ONLY: Questions for King County Executive and King County Council

Q26

Respondent skipped this question

Yes/No Questions for King County

Q27

Respondent skipped this question

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

Q28

Respondent skipped this question

How have you worked to combat climate change and promote climate justice? How would you use your elected office to ensure King County drastically lowers net carbon emissions by 2030 and achieves carbon neutrality by 2050?

Q29

Respondent skipped this question

King County plays an important role in providing many health and human services, as evidenced in the County's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. What has King County done well in its response to COVID? What would you continue, expand, and change? Do you support increased funding for many health and human services? How would you fund those services - even after the pandemic is over?

Q30

Respondent skipped this question

How would you advocate for alternatives to incarceration in the County's criminal legal system? How would you make zero youth incarceration a reality in King County?

Q31

Respondent skipped this question

What would you do to ensure that businesses owned by people of color have a fair shot at County contracts?

Q32

Respondent skipped this question

"Structural racism is not always caused by racist actors – it is caused by institutional arrangements overlaid on historical policies that continue to perpetuate racialized outcomes." - Stephen Menendian How would you use your position to work to dismantle these arrangements including, but not limited to, exclusionary land use policies?

Page 7: MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES ONLY: Questions for ALL Mayor, City Council, and City Attorney Candidates

Q33

Respondent skipped this question

Yes/No Questions for municipal candidates

Q34

Respondent skipped this question

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

Q35

Respondent skipped this question

Our region is growing quickly. How will you ensure that existing residents and newcomers alike have equitable access to affordable housing, public transit, and neighborhood amenities such as parks and schools? How will you protect current residents, and especially our most vulnerable communities, from displacement caused by this growth? How will you provide for and protect those displaced?

Q36

Respondent skipped this question

How have you worked to combat climate change? How would you use your elected office to ensure your region drastically lowers net carbon emissions by 2030 and achieves carbon neutrality by 2050?

Q37

Respondent skipped this question

What specific actions will you take to address the homelessness crisis in King County, both in the short term and long term? How do you plan to implement these solutions?

Q38

Respondent skipped this question

"Structural racism is not always caused by racist actors – it is caused by institutional arrangements overlaid on historical policies that continue to perpetuate racialized outcomes." - Stephen Menendian How would you use your position to work to dismantle these arrangements including, but not limited to, exclusionary land use policies?

Q39

Respondent skipped this question

Jurisdiction Check

Q40

Respondent skipped this question

Yes/No Questions for Seattle municipal candidates

Q41

Respondent skipped this question

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

Q42

Respondent skipped this question

What actions would you take to address homelessness? Please consider addressing land use, revenue, regional collaboration, the role of social services, the role of the police and justice system.

Q43

Respondent skipped this question

Seattleites are divided on how to fund and what to fund within police work and public safety. How would you help bring the community together and adjust the Seattle Police Department (SPD) budget as needed? By approximately what % would you adjust the SPD budget?

Q44

Respondent skipped this question

How will you prioritize transportation infrastructure for biking, pedestrians, transit, commercial vehicles, and cars? Which do you view as most important to prioritize funds for?

Q45

Respondent skipped this question

Do you support utilizing Seattle's newly granted authority to implement a 1% flat income tax?

Page 9: PORT ONLY: Questions for PORT Candidates

Q46

Respondent skipped this question

Yes/No Questions for port candidates

Q47

Respondent skipped this question

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

Q48

Respondent skipped this question

As the Port recovers from the economic impact of the pandemic, how will you use your position to ensure that future growth and activity among tenant operations is inline with limiting climate impacts and encourage environmental stewardship to be a good neighbor and steward of our environment? How would help alleviate today's present and real issues, specifically homelessness?

Q49

Respondent skipped this question

Since the pandemic and recent trade tariffs, the Seaport and Airport revenue and user statistics have plummeted. However, their capital investment was based on previous growth trends. As Port Commissioner, how will you help the Port to address these new economic realities?

Q50

Respondent skipped this question

The Port has operations and activities on tribal and indigenous land. How would you use your position to elevate indigenous people and encourage more equity and opportunity for BIPOC Communities? Give us some specific examples of your plans in this aspect. How would you handle your approach to women-and minority-owned businesses.

Q51

Respondent skipped this question

Considering the health impacts and socio-economic ramifications of increased airport activity, how would you balance the future growth of SeaTac airport with the interests of the residents of airport-adjacent communities?

Q52

Yes/No Questions for school board candidates

	Yes / No / Qualified
Do you support increased instruction time and a concurrent reduction of student testing?	Yes
Do you support the right of parents to opt their children out of standardized testing?	Yes
Do you support linking teacher evaluations to standardized test scores?	No
Do you support charter schools and/or vouchers for private school education?	Qualified
Do you support amending the Washington State Constitution to allow a simple majority of voters to approve school bonds?	Yes
Do you support supplemental funding for International Baccalaureate & Advanced Placement testing for low-income students?	Yes
Do you support increases in salary for teachers who attain additional relevant degrees and certification?	Yes
Do you support COVID vaccination for school staff prior to returning to in-person learning?	Qualified
Would you support continuing and expanding art, music, physical education, and library classes?	Yes

Q53

For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

Charter schools: I do not support vouchers for private schools, but I do believe that with proper oversight and administration, nonprofit public charter schools can have a place in an equitable and successful school ecosystem. In other states, such as Massachusetts, charters have successfully provided opportunities for students in need without weakening the public school system as a whole. Differentiation and innovation are both important principles and a limited inclusion of charter schools that are well integrated into the system can help provide space for students who are not well served by their home schools.

COVID vaccination: Thankfully school staff were able to be vaccinated very early in the process of reopening in Shoreline. I fully supported and advocated for early vaccination of teachers and staff. But Governor Inslee called for schools to begin the process of reopening before school staff were fully eligible for vaccines, and I supported our district's compliance with this directive, while taking all safety precautions encouraged by Public Health and the CDC.

Q54

How has the pandemic changed your perspective on educational equity? What will you propose to address the educational consequences of the COVID pandemic? What specific policies will you seek to ensure that all staff and students can safely return to in-person school safely during the COVID pandemic? How will you work to bridge the digital divide both now and after return to in-person education?

One notable inequity in the pandemic has been that white students, and those in wealthier neighborhoods, have been much more likely to elect in-person learning while students of color and in less affluent neighborhoods have chosen to remain remote. We know anecdotally that some students feel safer learning at home, and also that childcare has been a barrier for some families with working parents. Reopening plans need to address these factors.

Additionally, for the educational consequences of COVID, we need to honor the learning that has taken place this year, continue successful technological solutions, and avoid harsh policies that keep students behind.

For a safe return to the classroom, I believe that school leaders are not infectious disease specialists and that we need to follow public health guidelines on issues of public health, with transparency and respect for students and staff.

For the digital divide, Shoreline is lucky that before the pandemic, our voters approved a technology levy that enabled the district to provide computers and hotspots to all students who wanted them. We need to continue to provide equitable access, including supporting the implementation of the public broadband bill recently passed by the legislature.

Q55

What policies or changes will you seek to ensure that all students— regardless of their gender, race, class, disability, or ethnicity—receive an education that enables them to reach their fullest potential? What would you do to advance anti-racist and indigenous curriculum? What do you see as your role in disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline?

The policy solutions to educational inequities are complex and require systemic changes; an evidence-based, data-driven approach; and engaging leadership that allows the full staff to see themselves in the work. Professional development is one piece of the picture, and I believe in ongoing investment in high quality, actionable staff training in how to create inclusive learning environments.

Curriculum is another, and I support Shoreline's ongoing implementation of changes across the curriculum to increase ethnic studies, diverse representation, and critical inquiry across all subjects. In particular, we need to continue to invest in our implementation of the Black Lives Matter at School and Since Time Immemorial (indigenous history) curricula.

Another piece of the puzzle is looking at systems with a data-informed perspective and making changes when those systems create inequitable outcomes. The school to prison pipeline is a profound example of a system that requires this approach, and as school leaders we must work to fix school discipline systems that treat students unequally.

Q56

What should schools and school districts do to support the physical and mental health of all students; including LGBTQ+ students and students with disabilities? Please provide specific examples. Also, what actions would you take to remedy student access to and pay inequity among school nurses, paraeducators, and school office staff?

Schools must support the physical health and access of students with disabilities and other differences, focusing on inclusion and a universal design approach whenever possible. As schooling becomes increasingly online, accessible technology and digital design are also important emerging areas of focus.

We are also increasingly recognizing that mental health is a key component of a student's success and experience, and schools need to provide social and emotional learning opportunities, training for all staff in mental health issues, and counselors and other dedicated personnel who can help students experiencing mental health challenges.

Shoreline and Lake Forest Park voters have supported the presence of a school nurse in every building, an invaluable asset to our schools especially in the wake of a pandemic, and as a board member I will help to advocate for this and communicate its importance when voters next have the opportunity to support our schools directly. While staff pay is governed by collective bargaining agreements, the board responsibility to preserve the fiscal health of the district is an important part of maintaining the resources to pay staff appropriately.

Q57

What would you do to advocate for ample and equitable funding for k-12 education including special education, school nurses, counselors, mental health professionals, and paraeducators?

As a board member, I have several opportunities to advocate for funding to support our schools in hiring the personnel they need to support students. First, I will advocate with our state legislature, both with our own representatives and collectively through our statewide organization. Second, I have the responsibility to advocate directly with our district's voters, when we ask them to pass a levy to provide essential funding that maintains our school district's excellence. Third, I will seek to leverage external and community resources including grants and community partnerships to find creative ways to provide additional supports to schools.

Q58

Has the disruption of regular schooling and introduction of distance learning in the last year caused you to re-evaluate any aspect of traditional instruction and the structure of schooling? Are there changes you would like to see implemented?

More than any one specific disruption, the pandemic has shown an unexpected and very encouraging flexibility in our school system and an ability to innovate and pivot. As we return to the classroom, it is important to maintain that openness to innovation rather than returning to "business as usual" - with a focus on listening to and collaborating with students and seeking out practices that create positive conditions for learning, however traditional or radical they may seem.

Page 11: JUDICIAL ONLY: Questions for JUDICIAL Candidates

Q59

Respondent skipped this question

Have you served full-time or pro-tem as a judge or justice?
What did you learn from that experience and how will you use that learning to help improve equity and fairness in the justice system?

Q60

Respondent skipped this question

How have you helped tackle climate change issues from within your courtroom daily activities to an overall sustainable plan?

Q61

Respondent skipped this question

How has COVID-19 experience changed your perspective/behavior/actions on access to justice within your courtroom?

Q62

Respondent skipped this question

How would you advocate for more equity in our State's justice system? How can we make it more open, transparent and responsive?

Q63

Respondent skipped this question

How are you going to make sure you don't allow bias (including, but not limited to, racial bias) while serving on the bench and/or in the courtroom?

Q64

Respondent skipped this question

Do you believe judges can be biased and if so in what ways, please provide examples?

Q65

Respondent skipped this question

Do you see addressing bias and racial disparity in the court system as activism? Why or why not?

Q66

Respondent skipped this question

Do you think that judicial training focused on racial competency is activism? Why or why not?

Q67

Respondent skipped this question

Do you think racial disparity exists in the court system and more specifically on the bench?

Q68

Respondent skipped this question

What will you do as a judge to eliminate and mitigate bias on the bench?

Q69

Respondent skipped this question

What committees, commissions, workgroups do you currently or have previously served on?

Q70

Respondent skipped this question

Have you received or are you seeking political or financial support from any police officer, police guild/union or elected law enforcement official?

Page 12: ALL CANDIDATES: Submit Questionnaire

Q71

I, candidate, affirm that all the information provided in response to this questionnaire is true, complete and correct, to the best of my ability, and that no relevant matter has been omitted. (Use Prev and Next buttons to review.)

Candidate full name (as signature)

Sarah Cohen

Date

5/13/21**Q72**

Candidate

Information in this questionnaire was input by:

Q73

Respondent skipped this question

(If information input by someone other than candidate) I affirm that all responses were reviewed and approved by the candidate. (Use Prev and Next buttons to review.)

Q74

Share with King County Democrats

King County Democrats may post this questionnaire to a password-protected folder for access by King County Democrats Endorsements Committee members and Executive Board.

Q75

Share with LD Dems and YD Endorsement Committee members

King County Democrats may share this questionnaire to a password-protected folder for access by members of the Endorsements Committees of Legislative District (LD) Democratic organizations and Young Democrats (YD) organizations.

Q76

(OPTIONAL) Share with PCOs and/or Members

Democratic organizations overlapping the jurisdiction of my campaign whose rules require sharing questionnaire responses to Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs) or Membership may share this questionnaire with those groups.

Q77

(OPTIONAL) Share with Public

Democratic organizations overlapping the jurisdiction of my campaign whose rules require sharing questionnaire responses publicly may share this questionnaire publicly.

Q78

Email Copy

Please email a copy of my completed submission to the campaign email address. I understand it may take 24-48 hours (or more) for my completed submission to be emailed.
