

Grassroots Northshore Endorsement Questionnaire

1. What is your stance on voucher schools and public education?

The voucher school system has grown beyond its original intention. It is time to return the students using vouchers to public schools and expand on the community schooling model. Having attended Bay View High School, I am a strong supporter of public education, and am saddened by the consistent attacks on MPS by the state legislature. There are issues at MPS, but the school choice program has not led to consistent gains among our students.

2. What are your suggested solutions for gun violence in the central city?

Solving the gun violence will include a two pronged solution. First, we need to increase jobs with a livable wage to areas in the city where there are unacceptable amounts of underemployed and unemployed. The best deterrent to crime is a job. Secondly, we need to stop the flow of guns into our city. We need to hold private sellers accountable for who they sell to, and end straw sales. It is also time to reexamine whether assault rifles should be allowed in our cities.

3. What are your ideas for improving the economy of the central city?

The economy of the central city needs a serious boost. We need jobs with a family supporting wage, and ones that won't leave as the season changes. We need to connect our young people to burgeoning water technology sector of our county economy. Furthermore, we need to expand programs that keep kids off the streets and focus on learning a particular trade or job. Lastly, we need to increase transit options so people can get out to some of the business parks located outside the city of Milwaukee. Too many people are unable to work jobs because of how far away the job is located.

4. Where do you stand on payday lenders?

I strongly oppose the loosening of regulations on payday lenders. They only aim to bankrupt some of our most vulnerable citizens.

5. How would you reduce incarcerations, i.e. non-violent offenders, marijuana arrests, bench warrants and parole violations.

Right now, we have thousands of men and woman languishing in prisons and jails over non-violent crimes, particularly drug offenses. We need to treat these issues as a medical problem and work to reduce drug dependency. This includes job training programs for our incarcerated men and woman. It costs tens of thousands of dollars to hold an individual in prison, which could be better spent on education, roads, etc.

6. As a potential leader in your district, what are your ideas for reducing street crime?

I look forward to working with city leaders to find creative ways to reduce street crime. I would like to see more funding sent to Milwaukee to increase the shot-spotter program and add more police to our force. Furthermore, we need to work to change the culture between the police and the neighborhoods they police. If people are afraid to call the police, or don't trust the police, the task of mitigating street crime is that much harder. However, as previously stated, I am interested in increasing access to jobs to help reduce crime.