



Nancy Hunt, Edmonton Public School Board Trustee Candidate for Ward F

How would you advocate for sustainable and adequate funding for our students?

I would lobby to change the weighted moving average model for provincial education grants. Because Edmonton has high enrolment growth,

its schools are underfunded by this model when you compare the funding per student with other divisions.

Additionally, I would lobby for better funding to support students with special needs; public education has a mandate of inclusion, and yet we have seen declining funding to support our highest needs students and their families.

My approach to advocacy, which has been successful in both municipal and education contexts, uses data & analysis as well as personal impact perspectives to demonstrate need.

What are your priorities for education outcomes for Alberta's students?

Overall, Alberta's and Edmonton's global rankings are high for educational outcomes and my first goal is to maintain these results. Some additional areas on my priority list are:

1. Support strategies that enable more students to complete High School; Edmonton's high school completion rate is currently lower than the national average, most concerningly among First Nations, Metis and Inuit Students.
2. Add 21st century skills to our measurable educational outcomes. Examples of these skills include critical thinking, communication, collaboration, leadership, and global citizenship.
3. Expand our early childhood programs; we are behind other provinces in providing Pre-K and full day Kindergarten programs. Strong early childhood education fosters higher educational outcomes in the long term.



Public Interest Alberta

What is your position on the current draft K-6 curriculum?

My position is that the new draft curriculum should NOT be implemented and that we need a NEW APPROACH to affect change. As Trustee, my strategies include 1) continue to demand a redraft before any implementation, 2) work with other boards across the province to advocate for change, and 3) start more conversation regarding the process. When teachers, curriculum experts, Indigenous leaders, and parents are happy, I will be too.

What is your position on charter schools?

Charter schools are NOT under the jurisdiction of Public School Boards and as such, are not required to be inclusive or free. I would like to see their governance and funding re-evaluated at the provincial level, based on an analysis of their intent, who they serve, and the funding / fee model. Such an evaluation should uphold the following principles of protecting the integrity of quality PUBLIC education:

1. It is CRITICAL that public schools are publicly and sufficiently funded for all students.
2. Programs of NEED should be available within the public system.

What are your priorities for new school buildings and other infrastructure?

We need HIGH SCHOOL space in Edmonton! The three high schools in Ward F are all at capacity, and more students are coming. Edmonton's 2019 Census data shows a population boom of children currently ages 5-9; we will need 20% more school space for them!

Unfortunately, the Alberta Government did not grant any capital projects to Edmonton Public for the 2021-22 budget. As Trustee I will continue to lobby for capital funding while looking at creative solutions to accommodate students within our current infrastructure and through external partnerships (such as City of Edmonton and ECSB).

What is your position on public-private partnerships to build new schools?

I do not support public-private partnerships to build new schools. While they can enable a quicker build and a lower initial cost, they have been shown to be more costly in the long run for public school divisions in Alberta and other provinces.