

Get to Know Your Candidates: School Board Members Can Have a Huge Environmental Impact

School board members can have a huge impact on the environment. Get to know the candidates. Ask them some environmental questions, such as:

- Do you have any environmental priorities for the school district?
- What efforts would you support to reduce reliance on fossil fuel consumption by the school district?
- Do you support developing a climate action plan for the school district?
- Do you support the purchase of electric vehicles for the school district, including school buses?
- Do you have any plans or ideas for increasing recycling, composting or waste reduction in the school district?
- What steps would you take steps to reduce children's exposure to pesticides and other toxins?
- Do you have plans to test the school district's drinking water for lead or other contaminants and replacing any contaminated water lines or pipes?
- Higher rates of asthma occur among young people living in urban areas, although asthma affects rural youth as well. Have you identified a way to address the issue in your school district?
- Would you work to reduce children's exposure to air emission by establishing idle-free zones near playgrounds and loading zones?
- If your school district has a school house near a confined animal feeding operation (CAFO), what actions would you take to ensure that the children are protected from the air emissions?
- Would you work on establishing farm-to-table programs to provide locally grown foods in the cafeterias?
- Do you believe curriculum issues (such as science education) should be determined by educators?



Photo by Pam Mackey Taylor