



## **1. Reduce the reliance on property tax revenue and increase federal funding.**

Property taxes cause inequity in the quality of education. The richer the school district, the better the facilities, college preparation, programs, and volunteer organizations like the PTA and Booster Club. Each student should have the same opportunities no matter their district.

## **2. Start teaching multiple languages in elementary school.**

There are over 350 languages spoken in the United States, and it is a shame that we are taught only to be fluent in one. Students should learn other languages like Spanish, ASL, Japanese and more to be able to communicate and compete in our ever-evolving world.

## **3. Ban funding for absent students**

Schools based funding on kids in the seats. We should focus on proficiency in academics and career and college readiness.

## **4. Make school healthier for students.**

Students need more sleep and exercise and better food choices. A solution would be to have schools start later, implement more variety of PE classes, and offer healthier food choices than rubbery pizza, chips, and canned fruit.

## **5. Reduce state testing and evaluations based on scores.**

Teaching students to take a test doesn't allow for creativity, depth, or valuable discussions. Instead, precious time is wasted teaching students how to write DBQs and answer multiple choice questions and fill in the blanks.

And using student test scores as a reflection of a teacher's ability to do their job is not only a severe amount of pressure but also an imbalanced rating system. A teacher could have students with low test scores, but he/she could have inspired her students to go to college or read more extensive books. There is more to education than percentiles.

## **6. Hold students back if they do not understand the material.**

The "No Child Left Behind" philosophy of "social promotion" has pushed students to move on to the next grade, even when they haven't mastered certain concepts or skills. I would

rather see a child left behind and brought up to speed than an adult Left behind in the real world.

### **7. Expand the idea of STEM to STEAM.**

With public schools ramping up STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) classes and expectations, the arts are falling to the wayside. Budgets for art, music, theater, and other types have been squeezed since 2002. Students should have equal access to the fine arts and be able to strengthen their creative muscles.

### **8. More "real world" classes.**

Students need to learn "real world" knowledge in addition to AP Physics. Schools should bring home economics so students learn how to sew, cook, clean laundry properly, budget, etc. I also believe it is high time to get more practical financial classes about taxes, loans, credit, mortgages, investing in the stock market, how to start a business, etc. This would prepare students far better for the future than the SATs.

### **9. Pay teachers more and Shrink the Class size**

Teachers work more than 8 hours daily and have to deal with an average of 33 kids and take their work home with them. It's time to give teachers a raise not only in salary but also in our societal perspective. If we are to invest in our children's future, it starts in the classrooms. Fewer students allow teachers to focus on the needs of their students. The average class size should be 22-25 students.

### **10. Provide more qualified counselors and advisors.**

One of the biggest complaints among high school students is the lack of (competent) advisors. There should also be qualified counselors at each school, especially for those with test anxiety, mental health struggles, or family/relationship problems. Addressing and helping students with strategies to succeed academically and personally would significantly improve.

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Future Congressman Campaign Promise