



CITIZENS FOR
CARLISLE SCHOOLS
HERD STRONG

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

March 17 Special Election | House District 193

ABOUT CITIZENS FOR CARLISLE SCHOOLS

Citizens for Carlisle Schools (CFCS) is a nonpartisan coalition of parents, teachers, and taxpayers who care deeply about Carlisle schools and take great pride in our community. We are committed to promoting candidates and policies that put students first, respect parents and teachers, manage district resources responsibly, and unite our community to provide the best education possible for our kids.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

- Please answer all questions. Use additional pages if needed.
- Clear, direct responses are encouraged.
- Responses may be published in full and unedited.
- CFCS does not evaluate candidates based on party affiliation.
- If you do not have a position on an issue, please state that clearly.
- Please also include a short candidate bio and high-resolution headshot

HOW CFCS WILL REVIEW RESPONSES

CFCS reviews responses based on understanding of public education issues, support for fair funding, accountability, respect for local governance, opposition to censorship, and commitment to engagement with the Carlisle Area School District.

USE OF RESPONSES & ENDORSEMENT PROCESS

Candidate responses will be reviewed as part of Citizens for Carlisle Schools' endorsement and recommendation process for the March 17 special election. If CFCS issues an endorsement or recommendation in this race, our support may include — but is not limited to — social media promotion, direct financial support, and direct investment in voter contact strategies such as texting, mailings, and other outreach efforts. Endorsement decisions and recommendations are made public and may be shared with CFCS supporters through email, text alerts, social media, and other voter education communications.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE & CONTACT INFORMATION

Please submit your completed questionnaire no later than 5pm, Friday, February 20, 2026.

Late or incomplete submissions may not be considered. Candidates who do not respond by the deadline will be noted publicly as "Did Not Respond."

HOW TO SUBMIT

Please return your completed questionnaire and required attachments (candidate bio and high-resolution headshot) by email to hello@citizensforcarliseschools.org. Files should be submitted in PDF format, if possible. If submitting multiple files, please clearly label them with the candidate's name.

CFCS CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions about this questionnaire or the review process, please contact Executive Director, Rick Galena at hello@citizensforcarliseschools.org.

You can learn more about CFCS on our website (www.CitizensForCarlisleSchools.org) or our [Facebook](#) page.

SECTION 1: CANDIDATE & CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

Candidate Name: Todd Crawley

Office Sought: State Representative 193

Candidate Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Candidate Email Address: [REDACTED]

Campaign Committee Name (if applicable):

Campaign Mailing Address: P.O.Box 419 Shippensburg, PA 17257

Campaign Website URL: VoteCrawley.com

Campaign Contact (*if different from candidate*):

Name & Title:

Email:

Phone:

SECTION 2: VIABILITY & PATH TO VICTORY

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5. Are you seeking the support and/or endorsement of Citizens for Carlisle Schools in the March 17 special election?
- ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

SECTION 3: YES / NO QUESTIONS (WITH EXPLANATION)

6. Pennsylvania's public school funding system has been ruled unconstitutional and remains inequitable. Do you support continued increases in fair, formula-based state funding for public schools, including Carlisle Area School District, to reduce reliance on local property taxes?
- ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
- Please explain. The state must invest additional funding in public education to reduce pressure on local property taxes to fund school districts and ensure that schools in the 193rd have the resources they need to provide every student with a strong foundation and a chance for a bright future.*
7. Do you support increased state funding for special education to reduce the burden on local districts and property taxpayers?
- ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
- Please explain. In 2023 Commonwealth Court declared Pennsylvania's system for funding education unconstitutional. The court found that our schools require additional state funding to meet our*

constitution's mandate to provide all students including - special education - with a comprehensive, effective, and contemporary public education.

8. Do you support reforming Pennsylvania's charter and cyber charter funding system to reduce overpayments, improve transparency and accountability, and lower costs for local taxpayers?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

Please explain what reforms you support or oppose. The state legislature must ensure that tuition paid to cyber charter schools aligns with the cost of an online education. We cannot afford to continue sending excess tax dollars to cyber charters that are wasted on advertising, lavish CEO salaries, excessive fees to for-profit management companies, and other things unrelated to educating our local students.

9. Do you believe all schools receiving public tax dollars, including charter schools, should be held to the same transparency, auditing, and accountability standards as public school districts?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

Why or why not? On March 11, 2025, the court reaffirmed that the public has a right to know how cyber charter schools spend taxpayer dollars. This decision is a significant victory for accountability in Pennsylvania's cyber charter system, which receives over \$1 billion annually in public funding with little oversight.

In May 2025, the Commonwealth Court granted Application to Report the Opinion, ensuring that future right-to-know litigants can cite the opinion to support their cases. This precedent will aid public education advocates in their pursuit for greater accountability in cyber charter spending.

10. Do you oppose efforts to ban books or restrict access to age-appropriate educational materials in public schools based on political or ideological pressure?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

Please explain. Books shouldn't be banned in schools because it stifles critical thinking, limits exposure to diverse perspectives vital for understanding the world, hinders empathy, and denies students crucial representation, ultimately creating ignorance rather than protection, while undermining academic freedom and the role of educators in fostering intellectual growth. Removing books, especially those addressing race, LGBTQ+ issues, or challenging history, sends harmful messages of intolerance and erases identities, restricting learning and hindering preparation for a complex world.

11. If elected, do you commit to maintaining regular, direct engagement with Carlisle Area School District, including at least one in-person visit per year and meetings with administrators, educators, and staff, and to consulting with school leaders when major policy decisions affecting public schools are under consideration?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

Please explain. I would look forward to meeting with everyone from CASD.

SECTION 4: NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

12. What is your personal connection, if any, to public schools, either as a student, parent, volunteer, or community member? All 5 of my children have gone or are going through public education. Two oldest went to Public Universities and then onto grad school. Third is currently in undergrad at the University Pittsburgh and my youngest two are currently enrolled at Shippensburg High School.

13. How will you seek out and weigh input from public school parents, educators, and students when making policy decisions? I have found that direct engagement and transparent communication while hosting open, well-publicized meetings provides the needed discussion to assess the situation at hand. Once that information has been gathered systemic needs assessments that use structured, evidence-based methods to analyze strengths, weaknesses, and the root causes of issues can be found.
14. Property tax relief is a major concern for voters. What specific policies do you support to provide real property tax relief without cutting public school funding? I oppose SB 929 and HB 1649. Property tax relief needs to be addressed but without sacrificing school funding. Eliminate or limit 2021 tax exemption (Act 25 of 2021) which currently exempts qualifying data centers from sales and use tax on equipment and apply that revenue into Pennsylvania's public schools. The Commonwealth has lost over \$80 million in tax revenue since FY 2023-24, with potential losses up to \$235 million more by 2030 if the exemption remains, according to Representative Greg Vitali.
15. When public schools are criticized as "failing," what evidence or data do you rely on to evaluate whether that claim is accurate? A common definition is that schools are "failing/low-performing" if their proficiency rates are in the bottom five percent statewide. But, in all states, absolute performance (proficiency rates for elementary/middle schools, often mixed with graduation rates for high schools) is the primary driver of which schools get identified. Combined with a medium growth analysis of English and math should give an indication of the validity of the "failing school" claim. Side note: students enter their schools performing at different levels, and schools cannot control the students they serve, only how much progress those students make while they're in attendance.
16. How should the state respond when schools receiving public funds consistently demonstrate poor academic outcomes or low graduation rates? • To improve outcomes, policymakers need to identify and address constraints that prevent efficient resource allocation. In many instances additional funding does not significantly improve academic outcomes. Other barriers to improving schools, such as rules related to staffing and teacher pay, standards and curriculum, or incentives for schools and students can have a great influence on academic outcomes.
17. What role should the state play in helping school districts fund and modernize school facilities and infrastructure, including aging buildings, safety upgrades, and enrollment growth, without overburdening local property taxpayers? Without robust state support, lower-wealth districts are forced to take on higher-interest, long-term debt to build or repair schools, widening the gap in educational quality. Research indicates that quality, modern facilities are directly linked to better health, student learning, and community stability. Greater sponsorship of State grants to augment governmental assistance is also a necessity. For example, I secured a just under a million dollars PDE grant to refurbish an outdated fire alarm system at HACC Harrisburg campus. By increasing the state commitment to grant opportunities would undoubtedly result in a positive impact across the Commonwealth.
18. What role should locally elected school boards play in decisions about curriculum, budgets, and student support services, and what decisions, if any, should be mandated at the state level? Efforts to censor teachers, omit history, or ban important conversations about race in our schools cannot continue. Our children deserve an education honest about who we are, demonstrating integrity in how we treat others, and creating a sense of belonging so every child has the freedom to learn, grow, and pursue their dreams and I would be in favor of legislation that mandates that the First Amendment, 14th Amendment, and Title IX rights of all students and educators, with particular disproportionate impact on people of color and LGBTQI+ individuals are upheld and not violated.

19. Mental health needs among students are rising statewide. What role should the state play in ensuring schools have access to counselors, social workers, psychologists, and community-based mental health supports? Currently, there are 2026 budget proposals that focus on crisis services, school-based mental health, and workforce development. Following Act 54 of 2022, \$100 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds was allocated to adult behavioral health, with ongoing legislative efforts to support staff retention, crisis intervention, and system improvements. I support this funding and additional funding for the mental health needs of the 193rd.

SECTION 5: CANDIDATE BIO & PHOTO SUBMISSION

To support voter education and public transparency, please provide the following materials. These items may be used by Citizens for Carlisle Schools in social media, digital communications, voter education materials, and other public-facing content related to the March 17 special election.

☐ Candidate Bio

Please attach a brief candidate biography (recommended length: 150–250 words).

- Your bio should include relevant background, experience, and priorities.

☐ High-Resolution Headshot

Please attach a recent, high-resolution headshot suitable for digital and print use.

- Color preferred.
- Minimum 300 DPI or high-quality JPG or PNG format.
- Neutral or professional background recommended.

By submitting these materials, you grant Citizens for Carlisle Schools permission to use them for voter education and communications purposes.

DEADLINE: 5:00 pm | Friday, February 20, 2026