

Run DSA Candidates for School Boards

Authors: Shane Ruiz (East Bay) and Rose DuBois (Maine)

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Whereas, public schools remain one of the last bastions of public services in the United States despite being under attack from billionaires, the neoliberal charter movement, and the right wing,

Whereas, socialists should be leading the fight against the right wing and should make strategic interventions to defend democracy,

Whereas, one of the main tactics of the far right at present is to conduct takeovers of school boards in order to attack trans and queer youths, suppress intellectual freedom, and gut the public school system.

Whereas, DSA has a disproportionately high number of trans members, and serves as the central political home for many trans and queer comrades,

Whereas, the teacher movement is the tip of the spear of a revitalized labor movement and school boards races are a clear way to build relationships with teacher unions by showing ourselves to be the strongest fighters for teachers and quality public education for all,

Whereas, after the difficulty of working through the pandemic, teachers are now under immense pressure due to short staffing, austerity, and the far right's attacks on schools, leading to demoralization and burnout in a highly unionized sector.

Therefore be it resolved that, DSA will establish a National School Board Working Group (NSBWG) of the National Electoral Committee to help support chapters in running members for school board,

Resolved that the NSBWG will fight right wing and neoliberal attacks on public school by bringing together DSA, teachers, support staff and education worker unions, and grassroots parent and student groups behind candidates dedicated to building the working class movement,

Resolved that, DSA reaffirms its commitment to trans and queer rights, and to defending democracy against the ascendent far right, and DSA condemns to the strongest possible degree the growing and ongoing movement to eliminate trans people from our society,

Resolved that, the NSBWG will encourage chapters to monitor and agitate around the activity of far right school board groups and pro-charter school groups in their jurisdiction and to run DSA candidates in school board races themselves when viable,

Resolved that, DSA will work to connect chapters that have already won school board races with those that are looking to begin engaging in them in order to coordinate and share resources and experiences.

Signatures:

1. Shane Ruiz (East Bay)
2. Rose DuBois (Maine)
3. Marianne McHugh-Westfall (Maine)
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5. Isaac Lesser (Atlanta)
6. Graham Denevan (East Bay)
7. Gabriel Sanchez (Atlanta)
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14. Tori C (Columbus)
15. Cara Tobe (Louisville)
16. Quinn Albright (Columbus)
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28. Leo Hilton (Maine)
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61. Heather Hillenbrand (Akron)
62. Joseph Qualtieri (Philly)
63. Jacob Foreman (Colorado Springs)
64. Todd Blanchette (Maine)
65. Buddy Moore (Maine)
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79. Michael Kesselman (Peninsula DSA)

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106. Walker Smith (Chicago)
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108. Bridget Boyle (NYC)
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113. Tyler Sutherland (Long Island)
114. Jeff Glass (Austin)
115. Lauren Katz (At Large)
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120. Andrew Maglich (San Marcos)
121. Brynn Dunn (NYC)
122. Alexandra Walling (Connecticut)
123. James Lewis (Metro DC)

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125. Bryan Chong (Connecticut)
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135. Emily M (East Bay)
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143. Tyler Dupuis (Seattle)
144. Harpreet Chima (Sacramento)
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150. Logan Cole (Rochester)
151. Paul DeMuro (NYC)
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153. Gage Rancich (Chicago)
154. Cole Schenley (Erie)
155. Corey Blackburn (Philly)
156. James Irizarry (NYC)
157. Omar French (Denver)
158. Jonathan Greenberg (NYC)
159. Michael Stenovec (Los Angeles)
160. Brandon Messerly (Denver)
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201. Kira M (Syracuse)
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217. Chris Viola (Metro Detroit)
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219. Aaron Bager (Metro Detroit)
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243. Sarah Callahan (Metro Cincinnati)
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