

# 25<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats

## Candidate Endorsement Request (School Board)

Office Sought: \_\_\_\_\_ Puyallup School Board Pos 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 06/02/2012 \_\_\_\_\_

### Campaign Information

Name of Campaign: \_\_\_\_\_ Nathaniel Downes for School Board \_\_\_\_\_ Campaign Manager: \_\_\_\_\_ none – open to suggestions \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Address: \_\_\_\_\_ 14711 85<sup>th</sup> Ave E. \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ 206-890-9255 \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ votedownes@gmail.com \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_ <http://www.votedownes.com> (due to go up July 1st) \_\_\_\_\_

Party Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_ Democratic \_\_\_\_\_

Are you using union printers and/or sign shops to do your campaign printing? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, Visi and XPress \_\_\_\_\_

### Personal Information:

Full Name (as shown on ballot): \_\_\_\_\_ Nathaniel Downes \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ 14711 85<sup>th</sup> ave e \_\_\_\_\_

Years at this address: \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Legislative District: \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Precinct: \_\_\_\_\_ 116 \_\_\_\_\_

Years in the school district that you want to represent: \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have children who attend/attended school in your district? \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_

### Education (Please indicate highest level attained)

Degree (specify): \_\_\_\_\_ High School \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Greely HS, Cumberland ME \_\_\_\_\_

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**Previous Public Service**

Office/Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_ WA Democrat State Committeeman \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ 01-01-17 - Present \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Political Party \_\_\_\_\_

Duties: \_\_\_\_\_

Office/Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Duties: \_\_\_\_\_

Office/Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Duties: \_\_\_\_\_

Office/Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Duties: \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Job Information**

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Missing Worlds Media, Inc \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ President \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ The Board \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ ndownes@missingworldsmedia.com \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ 206-890-9255 \_\_\_\_\_

**Major Civic Interests**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Civic Clubs or Community Organizations You Have Been Involved With?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Questionnaire

*Please keep your answers brief.*

*If you need more room, attach a separate page at the end and mark "see attached" on the questionnaire.*

*What do you feel you can offer in this position that your opponent(s) cannot offer?*

I come from a business background, but more specifically a video game development executive background. I've had to direct large teams, some of which are not even on the same continent as myself, towards a long term goal. Part of this includes being able to organize, then instruct, others in very brief periods. I've balanced budgets involving very large sums, with high fixed costs, and pursued new revenue when necessary to avoid cuts to critical areas. These are the hard decisions that a school board faces, and it is not something we want the members to learn while on the job.

*What kinds of funding would you support to pay for new schools and infrastructure necessitated by residential development?*

The overuse of levies has resulted in our school district being sued for non-compliance with the state supreme court decision, so new funding options must not fall back to the old approach of levies. This leaves us with several other options, from a local sales tax on various vice products such as tobacco and cannabis to added fees for services. I am wide open to ideas.

*Briefly, how would you construct policy to deal with the following concerns?*

*Scheduling for non-basic but important classes such as music and the arts, physical education, debate, health, etc., balanced to lessen conflict with classroom teaching:*

I consider these still classroom teaching. After all, what kind of society will we have without them? The isolation of these from core classroom in planning is itself the root of the issues of balance. Instead, they are handled like an afterthought, disposable, unimportant, despite all evidence demonstrating that they are as critical as mathematics, science and reading. By putting them right next to the traditional core in our planning, it should help balance things out and reduce conflict.

*Campus Safety, e.g. bullying, electronic surveillance of students, police on campus, etc.:*

Bullies cannot be tolerated. Electronic observation of public areas, which ultimately school hallways are, is not some big brother state, but general safety. In the old days, a Truancy Officer could be found on campus, which not only served to handle attendance, but also could handle security if needed. A dedicated role, with a person trained for handling children rather than a general policeman, would be a far better use of resources.

*Signs of physical or sexual abuse or neglect:*

Our school nurses and counselors should be trained to help identify and handle such. Annual training to keep their skills sharp should help with this.

*Environmental stewardship (recycling programs, sustainable building practices, low carbon footprint policies):*

This needs to start early, and expand as students age through the system. Perhaps initially they have a single recycling bin, but by high school we have composting, paper, plastic, glass, metal, etc, all sorted.

*How many semesters of civics should be required in K-12 education, and in what grade should civics education begin?*

Civics is critical in a democracy. That we do not require a semester every year is preposterous. It is not as if the government goes away every 4 years and is forgotten. I would require 9 semesters in total, beginning in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

*Do you believe these subjects should be included in the curriculum?*

Sex Education: Yes

If yes which outline should be followed to teach pregnancy prevention:  
Fact based pregnancy prevention

Foreign language: Yes

How many years should be required for graduation? 2

Drug and nutrition information: Yes

Climate science: Yes

Evolution science: Yes

Other Concerns:

*Do you favor allowing direct contact between military recruiters and students? Yes*

*In your opinion, should it be legal for teachers to go on strike? Yes*

*Why or why not?*

Strikes are when negotiations have failed. When a strike does happen, it is not a failure on the part of the teachers, but a failure on the part of the system. The need to strike when failure occurs must not only be maintained, but strengthened. Even in so doing, it is an object lesson to the students themselves, of the importance given to the right to unionize, and organize.

*With so many environmental impacts on youth health these days and the need for health education in schools what level of medical professional do you feel should be employed in each school building?*

A full time nurse

*What current programs would you be willing to cut to achieve the proper level of health instruction and healthcare in the schools?*

In making decisions should the school board give priority to: (please prioritize, 1 to 6):

The wishes of parents	<u>4</u>
The wishes of students	<u>2</u>
The wishes of a vocal minority	<u>6</u>
The recommendations of the teacher	<u>1</u>
The recommendations of the principal	<u>3</u>
The recommendations of district administration	<u>5</u>

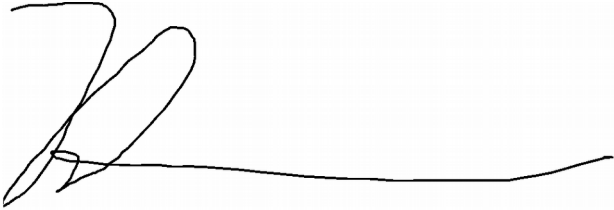
*Finally, any additional comments you would like to share:*

Too many people view the school board as some kind of springboard, or a feather to hang in their hat. It is not some marker for a bucket list, but a solemn duty, likely one of the most important in our society. A society which does not plan for the future will have no future. I thank you for your consideration, and would be honored to have your support.

It is the intent of the 25th District Democrats to support qualified Democrats seeking political office for both partisan and

nonpartisan races. To that end we are looking for individuals who adhere to Democratic principles as demonstrated by Democratic Party activity, community activities, their reputation among Democrats, and statements they make supporting the Democratic Party and fellow Democrats. Endorsed candidates are discouraged from giving support in any partisan race to non-Democratic candidates. If an individual is running against another Democratic candidate(s), such endorsed candidate is encouraged to draw clear distinctions and differences with his/her opponent in a friendly, informational, and non-confrontational fashion. My signature below signifies my agreement with these principles and that I understand that the 25th District Democrats may withdraw its endorsement if I do not adhere to them.

Candidate Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'D' followed by a long horizontal line that tapers to the right.

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 6/2/2017 \_\_\_\_\_

**Please save this form as a PDF** and return your completed questionnaire to [cherde@earthlink.net](mailto:cherde@earthlink.net)