

Sarah Lipson for School Board

Pre-Kindergarten Services For All Children

- Work to provide access to high quality public pre-kindergarten education for all children.
- Consolidate and improve management of existing funds for federally subsidized Child Development Centers while working to improve standards.

Improved Student Services

- Provide onsite nurses, social workers and librarians for all Elementary, Middle and High Schools.
- Restore quality Arts, Music and Physical Education programs to the schools.
- Improve facilities and curriculum for County Community Schools.
- End practice of teaching without regard to educational level at the Youth Guidance Center.
- Ensure that the city and county of San Francisco keep its promise to build School of the Arts in exchange for symphony property.

Small Autonomous Schools

- Support the development of small autonomous schools in San Francisco.
 - Studies show small schools produce higher graduation rates at less cost per graduate.
 - Small schools foster a community atmosphere and provide for personalized education for youth.
 - Small schools are safer, with higher attendance rates than larger high schools.

Accurate Accountability Measures

- Eliminate “High-Stakes” testing: the testing system currently in place is an inaccurate assessment of student achievement and unfairly penalizes poor children of color and English language learners.
- Single measure tests, such as California’s High School Exit Exam, should never be used as the only criterion for graduation.
- Create assessment tools aligned with state standards: while current curriculum is designed and implemented towards state standards, the current (2nd – 11th grade) STAR test and newly adopted CAT test are not aligned with these standards.

Living Wage For Teachers

- Teachers need to be paid a professional wage that would allow them to reside in the city in which they teach.
- Teachers should not be paid less than prison guards, as is the current state of affairs.

Quality Scholastic Environment

- Scrutinize facilities department to adequately ensure a healthy environment for learning.
- Support responsible school bond issuance to restore confidence in committing public dollars to education.
- Keep commercialization out of public schools by prohibiting corporate advertising on school grounds.
- Ensure a homophobia-free school environment that fosters tolerance among school children.
- Work to exceed minimum federal standards for school lunches.

Privatization

- Privatization of public schools is a failed experiment. We cannot rely on privatization to improve our low performing schools.

Nonprofit Charter Schools

- Work to change enrollment process to ensure ethnic and social class diversity.
- Encourage state to prohibit cloning of the schools once they have been chartered.