



Statement of Principles

I agree that early childhood education is important for Manchester's children and families and a critical investment for the city because:

- Investing in high-quality early childhood education now means taxpayers having to pay less later because studies show children receiving high-quality early education are less likely to turn to drugs or crime and less likely to require costly interventions as they age through school. It is estimated that every \$1 spent on early childhood education can save taxpayers \$7-10 in the long run;
- In a city like ours with so many children speaking languages other than English at home, preschool can play a vital role in preparing these kids for kindergarten and making sure all kids are ready to learn by age 5;
- Scientific studies show the human brain develops most rapidly in the earliest years between the ages of 0 and 5, but almost all the public money our city invests in children is after age 5. We should change this and direct more to early childhood education programs like preschool;
- And, while parents take the lead in raising and instructing their children, high-quality preschool can assist families, particularly those facing tough times, and help close the growing opportunity gap in our city, state, and country.

Therefore, I am committed to making early childhood education a priority and will work to increase access and improve the quality of early learning for all Manchester kids during my next term on the Manchester Board of School Committee. I pledge to find ways to allocate funds toward public early childhood education and explore innovative public-private partnerships that can expand access to pre-K throughout Manchester for all our kids.

Signature

Date

In your own words, tell us why high-quality early childhood education is important to you and the families of Manchester:

