



[Lex-Wiki.Org](https://lex-wiki.org) is a local Wikipedia for Lexington, MA. [Lex-wiki.Org](https://lex-wiki.org) covers Arts and Entertainment, Local Flora and Fauna, Local History, City Life as well as Town Government and other issues of public interest in Lexington.

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Biographical Question

1. *What can you tell us about yourself? Please include a brief outline of your relevant experience, whether from private or public life – including public offices held, and volunteer work.*

I'm a parent who learned to advocate for the right things for people, a longtime activist on issues that make a difference in the lives of children, our communities, and working families. I've navigated a complex system for special education services for our daughter, a working parent who came up through the school Site Council and the PTA, elected to two terms on the School Committee, then the Governor (Deval Patrick) appointed me to the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

I was raised in working and middle-class neighborhoods by parents who were teachers and social justice liberals; from them I learned persistence, the value of hard work, and the importance of service and standing up for things I believe in.

I've served in Town Meeting since 2006. I've served in PTAs at the local, state, and national levels. I was elected twice to School Committee and served as chair during the worst recession of our lifetime. That experience has taught me the value of earnest questions and a soft heart.

I'm a prominent voice for public education; from my experience on the Board of Education I've learned what it takes to both advocate for progressive change and navigate the body to forward that agenda on the state stage.

- As the Parent Representative on the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education since 2014, and one of eleven voting members on the Board, I have not hesitated speaking up and bucking the *status quo* in the search for a new commissioner of K-12 education and on new accountability measures, to name two.

- As a member of the Board’s Budget Subcommittee, I prioritized the Department’s \$5 billion budget for K-12 education, addressing issues and our concerns for LGBTQ equality, social-emotional learning, civics education, media and financial literacy, increased METCO funding, and updating the Department’s most out-of-date curriculum frameworks for social science, arts education, and comprehensive health.

I’ve been leading Massachusetts’ efforts to obtain better funding for public transportation and public education as one of ten original signers of the Fair Share Amendment (“millionaire’s tax”); now that the SJC has knocked that out of the hands of voters this November, if elected, I will lead on a new legislative initiative, beginning in next year’s legislative session. It’s that, plus a lifetime engaging in our political process and giving voice to progressive values that I will bring to the legislature.

The issues we face in our district and beyond, need a courageous leader who isn’t afraid to speak up and make change. I’m the progressive choice in this race, being skilled and effective at policy-making and advocacy. I’ve been recognized by leading progressive organizations Woburn Welcomes, Progressive Democrats of Massachusetts, and Mass Alliance (a coalition of statewide progressive groups whose members include women’s and immigrant’s groups, union and LGBTQ orgs, healthcare professionals and environmental groups, choice orgs and voter advocate groups (<http://massalliance.org/members/>), as the best candidate in this race who will be the strongest voice for out progressive values in the State House (<https://maryannstewart.org/endorsements/>).

LEADERSHIP

- *National Council of States*, National PTA
- *Board of Directors*, National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE)
- *Editorial Advisory Board*, NASBE
- *Leadership Team*, Progressive Democrats of Massachusetts
- *Parent Representative – Deval L. Patrick Gubernatorial Appointee*, Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
- *One of Ten Original Signers of the Fair Share Amendment Ballot Initiative*, Raise Up Massachusetts
- *President*, Massachusetts PTA
- *Chair and Member*, Federal & State Legislative Affairs, Massachusetts PTA
- *Chair and Member*, MassPartners for Public Schools
- *Chair and Member*, Lexington School Committee

RELEVANT WORK HISTORY

- *Adjunct Faculty*, Middlesex Community College
- *Congressional District Office Intern*, Congresswoman Katherine Clark
- *Member*, Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
- *Readiness Project Whole Child Subcommittee*, Governor Deval L. Patrick
- *Massachusetts State House Intern*, Representative Jay Kaufman
- *Elected Representative*, Lexington Town Meeting

PROFESSIONAL + CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- League of Women Voters of Lexington
- Lexington Democratic Town Committee

- Lexington Town Meeting Members' Association
- Massachusetts Teachers Association, Adjunct Faculty
- National Association of State Boards of Education
- Progressive Democrats of Massachusetts

EDUCATION

- *Project Management Certificate*, Middlesex Community College
- *Emerge Massachusetts*, Class of 2011
- *Bachelor of Science*, College of Music, University of Massachusetts

Candidate Platform

2. *Why are you running for State House?*

I'm running for office to expand my call to service and to extend my leadership on critical issues we face in the district and beyond.

My call to action is a call to affordable healthcare, affordable college, to challenge corporate power, to support working families, and to strengthen our safety net of services for people and to also strengthen the Progressive Caucus in the State House. We need a courageous champion who isn't afraid to speak up and make change.

My husband Duncan and I have lived in Lexington for the past twenty-four years. Our three children, now young adults, attended Lexington's Public Schools, as did Duncan, who was born and raised in Lexington. We chose to make the Town our home because Duncan still had deep roots here and we were drawn to its history, strong neighborhood schools, and dedication to conservation and the environment.

- When we chose to move to Lexington as a young family, it was through the affordable housing program.
- When my husband lost his job in the early 2000s, I negotiated for healthcare coverage for our family from my employer even though I wasn't working full-time.
- I learned to navigate a complex system of special education services for our daughter.
- And I have experienced the heartbreaking loss of a loved one to opiate addiction.

It's my family's story that motivates me to do what I do in the community and run for public office. I understand how families struggle today, though they work harder than ever. That seniors on a fixed income are limited as to what they can afford to pay to continue to live in, and support, their communities. The challenges young adults face, as they struggle with student debt and search for work. I believe in representation that champions quality public services people need to overcome the challenges they face every day.

Some people approach this work by first stepping back and waiting until a consensus has formed before making a move. I approach it differently, leaning in with my values first, then building strong coalitions both inside and outside of the State House. Fairness. Opportunity. Strong public education.

Protections for people who are differently-abled. Marginalized people. Equality for all. If there is to be compromise, it will not be to compromise on our values.

Policy Questions

3. *What are the largest three challenges Woburn and Lexington face over the next few years, and what can you do in the State House to address them?*

#1: Revenue. Two things to understand about our tax structure: 1). It's inadequate and 2). it's unfair. Decisions made beginning twenty years ago have reduced state revenues by \$3-4B each year and we've gone from one austerity budget to another since the "great recession". As one of the original ten signers to initiate the Fair Share Amendment, I was deeply disappointed in the SJC's rejection of the measure. Their decision makes it clear that a strong, progressive coalition in the Legislature is more important than ever. If elected as our next State Representative, I pledge to be part of that coalition and work as hard as I can to get a new question on the ballot. The restriction that knocked the Fair Share Amendment off the ballot this November applies only to *citizen* initiatives, not *legislative* initiatives. We need more revenue, not less, especially for addressing the gap in our Foundation Formula for K-12 education and for improvements to our public transportation system. I agree with State Representative Jay Kaufman that "until the wealthiest among us pay their fair share, we are destined to live with inadequate state services and the gross inequity of our state taxes."

#2: Climate change. We must move rapidly to 100% renewable energy. The State Senate has passed a remarkable bill -- a values-driven document that takes a generational approach to the issue. They achieved their unanimous outcome because of the large grassroots supports they had and worked with. That's power. One of the most important things we can do is to have a legislative body that responds to grassroots. This is what I have been doing for years from outside the State House. I have a proven track record of strong results and will get this done inside the State House, too. So, one of the first things I would do if I were in the House would be to work with grassroots activists and do everything possible to see the provisions that passed in the Senate's remarkable bill, to pass in the House, with well-defined goals to ensure we are on a path forward to meet our climate change objectives, including goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and 2040 and to establish a market-based carbon tax.

#3: Affordable healthcare for all. People are maxed out on deductibles, premiums, and co-pays. We are seeing that the road to a single-payer option is loooong -- but, it's where we will ultimately end up because it is more fair and reduces costs for everyone, while maintaining high quality, comprehensive physical and mental healthcare for all. High-quality healthcare for all is a basic right. Full, comprehensive physical and mental healthcare also includes reproductive healthcare and women's cancer prevention, screening, and treatment. A universal system will also cover substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery services. I invite voters to refer to my website for more information about the issues, voters may visit: <https://maryannstewart.org/bio/on-the-issues/>

4. *Lexington is in process of renovating two middle schools, building a new Hastings school, a new preschool facility, and a new fire station. The town is planning to renovate and expand the police station and will soon need either a renovated or a new high school. These projects are necessary to replace old infrastructure. At the same time, the projects result in significantly higher local taxes, approved by voters through several debt exclusion referenda.*

What do you propose to do, in the State Legislature, to reduce municipal construction costs – as well as to relieve some of the tax pressure on those least able to pay, for example people living on fixed income such as retirees living on Social Security?

As our next State Representative, I will ensure Lexington is taking advantage of everything currently available in the Commonwealth to reduce some of the tax pressure on those least able to pay. I would seek to expand the senior circuit tax breaker, so that it includes residents with lower incomes, as well; I will work to provide tax relief to homeowners who are “house rich, cash poor”. I would also seek to expand the Earned Income Tax Credit for working people and work to make our tax system more progressive overall, so that the wealthiest among us pay more of their fair share in taxes.

5. *Zoning that facilitates more balanced housing and more affordable housing has the benefit of reducing the high cost of housing and improving the socio-economic diversity of our community. At the same time, more housing means more traffic and an increase in school population that translates into additional pressure on local budgets.*

What are your principles in regards to zoning – and what do you plan to do to advance your principles?

Strong community prosperity includes affordable housing and a robust transportation system. Many people have a place to live, thanks specifically to Chapter 40B. I personally have benefitted from 40B programs and find great value in them. I will be an advocate for these types of programs and will work with elected officials in Lexington and Woburn to improve housing for the community.

I will work to protect existing affordable housing and create more and varied kinds of affordable housing, through more aggressive inclusionary zoning, support for community land trusts, and better public-private partnerships.

I would look to tax big developers and speculators, then use the revenue to subsidize affordable rentals. At the same time, inclusionary zoning policy should be created as part of an overall affordable housing plan for the Town, with dedicated staff to work toward increasing affordable housing stock.

I’m interested in how Airbnb impacts our communities and, if elected, I will sit down with Boston City Councillors to better understand what is going on there.

We are long overdue for investments in public transit, which I will support, and stop the privatization schemes that hurt taxpayers, riders, businesses, and workers.

6. *Transgender rights: A November 2018 ballot question seeks to repeal the protection of transgender people in public places – including medical facilities, restaurants, retail shops, and bathrooms. What have you done, and will do to advance transgender non-discrimination?*

I have long been a champion for LGBTQ+ equality.

- In 2009, I worked to see enumeration for bullying of LGBTQ students added to the State Democratic Platform.
- In 2013, as a member of the Massachusetts PTA Board of Directors, I worked to facilitate and support the first LGBTQ Committee in any PTA's history.
- In April 2016, I wrote to Governor Baker, urging him to speak out in support of the transgender accommodations law. Voters may read that letter here: <https://mastewartma.blogspot.com/2016/04/transgender-rights.html>
- As a Delegate to the 2017 State Democratic Convention, I voted to support the party's platform, which includes continuing broad-range support for LGBTQ+ rights, including protecting the transgender civil rights law.
- The Lexington Minuteman recently published my letter to the editor in support of maintaining transgender non-discrimination. Voters may read the letter here: <https://maryannstewart.org/2018/05/27/yes-for-human-rights/>
- I am working full-time on this campaign for State Representative and I wear my LexPride transgender ribbon as I canvass door-to-door as an outward sign of support for my transgender friends, neighbors, and youth. Following the September Primary Election, I have committed to organizing volunteers for phone-banking to raise awareness and urge people to maintain civil rights for trans people when they vote on the ballot question this November.

7. *Job growth and economic development: What will you do to advance the state's economic interests, while addressing wealth and income inequality, given that Massachusetts has the 6th worst income inequality in the union?*

We can take many steps to improve the economy and economic security for all, a key goal of my campaign.

- The best economic driver is to invest in education for our children, especially in universal early education and affordable childcare, and for those considered "high risk".
- Protect public education from further charter school expansion.
- We need deep investment in public higher education: debt-free college options, including low-interest loans (that could be at the same interest level as the big banks) and student debt forgiveness programs.
- Smart growth and development includes increased opportunities for entrepreneurs and local, independent small business, that advances workers' rights.

- We must invest in workforce development and lifelong learning programs.
- I do not support Non-Competes.
- Address the MBTA maintenance backlog (over \$7 billion) and increase investment for 21st Century standards upgrades for roads, bridges, ports, airports, rail, transit, bike paths, and walkways.
- We need to do more to ensure that previously incarcerated people can join the workforce and we must do more to defend public sector jobs and support the interests of organized labor.

The “Grand Bargain” that increased the minimum wage to \$15/hour (to be implemented over 5 years, instead of 4 years) and for Paid Family and Medical Leave, did not include justice for tipped workers, did not index the minimum wage to inflation, and did not include time-and-a-half for Sunday retail workers, so one of my priorities as our next State Representative will be to catch people up who were left behind in the Grand Bargain. Voters may read my statement on the Grand Bargain here: <https://maryannstewart.org/2018/06/22/the-grand-bargain/> and another post in support of workers’ rights here: <https://maryannstewart.org/2018/03/13/workers-rights/>

8. *Transportation is a major producer of greenhouse gasses (GHG) and consumer of fossil fuel energy sources. What is your philosophy for producing an effective transportation system that is environmentally and financially sustainable?*

Transportation infrastructure is not only about economic growth, it is deeply connected to affordable housing, climate change, and energy goals. Most people see economic growth as the #1 reason to invest in our transportation system and the benefit -- the necessity -- of cleaner transportation. The question is: Do we want good public transportation or do we want to sit in traffic for an hour or more to get to work? How much flex time is available to workers?

Over a third of the state’s GHG emissions come from the transportation sector, so decarbonizing our economy will require decarbonizing our transportation system. This means ensuring that all Massachusetts residents have the ability to walk, bike, ride a bus, or ride a train in an affordable and accessible manner to get to their desired destinations.

We need to increase our investment in our public transit systems and oppose fare hikes and service cuts that disproportionately harm the least privileged among us. Further, we need to ensure that all vehicles on the road are more fuel-efficient than they are today. I support funding public charging infrastructure for electric vehicle owners, as well as supporting investment in the electrification of transit options (public transit buses, school buses).

We need increased investment in public transportation agencies, such as the MBTA and regional transit authorities, and investment for the development of the North-South Rail Link, the Springfield-Boston Commuter Rail, and South Coast Rail.

9. *Renewable energy production is essential to meeting Massachusetts' commitments to GHG reduction, yet recent rate structure proposed by investor owned utilities threatened to make municipal and residential installations financially impractical. What is your approach to creating incentives for renewable energy production that are not rendered moot by actions of the DPU?*

Climate science is real and we need action to rapidly address climate change. Keep fossil fuels in the ground. Modernize the grid. Accelerate renewables and quickly transition to 100% renewable energy, investing in wind, solar, and other renewable energy sources to replace fossil fuels. Responsible policy to protect and sustain our environment and natural resources. Net Zero carbon emissions. Opportunities to support green policy in the way we live, build, move.

There is currently a disincentive to developing battery technology. The owners of large houses, who install solar and can best afford it, don't need to invest in battery storage because they can just send the power back to the grid and expect the power to be there when they want it. Also, all of the cost savings are accruing to the most wealthy homeowners, while the cost of subsidies is taken up by taxpayers. There is more and more solar on roofs which means those with the largest roofs and those with the ability to put up thousands in initial capital, get returns on investments in just a few years, while the rest of us continue to pay among the highest rates for electricity in the country. There are other disincentives to technology development with tax incentives that fluctuate and are not reliable for innovative businesses seeking to develop renewable power solutions. We need to develop incentives that are fair.

The Commonwealth is a hub of technology and innovation is our edge. This is the area where we can really contribute. Energy is very important to the economy and also to our health and safety. The transition to a green economy should mean good new jobs at fair wages, and energy cost savings for all, not handouts to the wealthy at the expense of taxpayers. We need to move to renewables and a carbon-free future and do it in a way that is fast and effective, while also ensuring safety and reliability for families and businesses in Massachusetts.

- Accelerate the Renewable Portfolio Standard to reach at least 50% clean energy by 2030, a 3% annual increase.
- Reform the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) and protect ratepayers from self-dealing and prevent subsidies for gas pipelines.
- We were doing pretty well on solar, but we need to end net metering, as other states have already done. Net metering caps limit our ability to fight climate change.
- Allow virtual net metering, which would provide for community solar to be acceptable to low-income residents, renters, and other people who can't afford their own solar projects.
- Roll back the demand charge that Eversource was able to place on solar customers.
- Establish carbon pricing.
- Require utilities to offer optional time of use rates to all customers. These rates will reduce peak demand and electricity costs all while encouraging the adoption of solar energy and electric vehicles.
- Target 2,000MW energy storage by 2025 and prohibit utilities from owning behind the meter energy storage systems.

- Off-Shore Wind -- there is no reason not to tap this available source of clean energy more aggressively and at least raise the demand to 2,000MW.
- Develop a plan by 2023 for meeting GWSA targets for 2030, 2040, and 2050.
- Require utilities to report lost and unaccounted for natural gas from leaks and prohibit imposing a pipeline tax on ratepayers for funding new pipelines. Consider alternatives to natural gas before building new pipelines.
- Develop a plan to create new municipal light districts including ways for communities who want to establish a municipal light district to acquire the assets of the existing investor owned utility.
- Provide consumer protections from predatory competitive electricity suppliers.
- Require that 50% of the Commonwealth's vehicles be zero emission by 2025, and that 100% of all new vehicles purchased or leased after 2026 be zero emission.
- Ask the MBTA to implement a pilot program to evaluate regenerative braking vehicles to conserve energy.
- Establish a moratorium on fracking or storing fracking waste in Massachusetts.

The above bullets were provisions of the Senate's Clean Energy Future bill that passed unanimously.

At a recent climate change, energy, and environmental candidate forum in Lexington, candidates were asked about using wood pellets as a renewable resource. I said that I was unfamiliar with that project. I have since researched the issue and think that investing in this type of biomass would be at the very bottom of the list.

One other note: It's unfair for certain communities to receive a much higher level of pollution than others. The seven incinerators in Massachusetts burn resources that could be recycled or composted. Although the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has an administrative moratorium on new incinerators or expansion of existing incinerators they are already making exceptions to this moratorium. I would actively support legislation that codifies the existing DEP policy to retain the moratorium on more incineration.

10. *Buildings are another major component of energy consumption. What approach would you take to incentivize building practices that approach net-zero emissions and net-zero energy consumption?*

I support green policies in all the ways we live, build, and move.

There are local incentives that don't require State House legislative action. For example, to my knowledge, Woburn has yet to adopt the Stretch Energy Code, as Lexington did in March 2010. Additionally, Lexington's Net Zero Task Force's vision is a twenty-five year goal to reduce GHG emissions from Lexington's residential, municipal, and commercial buildings and to achieve a transition to renewable energy sources. The Task Force's recommendations have not been acted upon by the Board of Selectmen. We have nearly half a billion dollars in capital projects over the next decade and we don't have an updated sustainable design policy. Current Selectmen and School Committee members signed onto these projects thinking all of these buildings/projects would be

using renewables and be all electric. How can it be that there is no sustainable design policy? How has that happened?

11. *All the Democrat candidates for Governor for Nov 2018 support single payer healthcare in Massachusetts. The state legislature, however, for many years, has instead passed measures intending to keep health care costs inflation in check using a market mechanism for private medical insurers, rather than switching to a single payer system. Many past state house candidates had single payer in their campaign platform, but the state house has not supported the measure.*

Why do you think we have this disconnect between candidates and elected officials? Do you support Single Payer – and is Single Payer feasible in Massachusetts? If not, what are the alternatives?

I believe affordable healthcare is a human right and we must recognize that healthcare costs are out of control -- both here and across the country. The answer is absolutely a single-payer healthcare system, which has been part of the state's Democratic party platform for years. The problem is that leadership in the House doesn't want to make change. This is why representation matters -- not all Democrats are the same.

As I said earlier, some people approach things by first stepping back and waiting until a consensus has formed before making a move. That's what leadership is doing in the House. And it's the wrong way to make change for our people.

I approach things differently -- leaning in and leading first with my values, then building strong coalitions both inside and outside of the State House. If there is to be compromise, it will not be to compromise on our values. We need new, progressive leaders in the House who are committed to making single-payer healthcare a reality for all.

There are 160 legislators in the House; each and everyone of them knows how to file legislation. There are but a few dozen legislators who are pushing for the *right* legislation: Healthcare for all. Safe communities. Women's reproductive freedom. People want representatives who will push leadership to stand up for the right things, including standing up to the federal Republican administration.

12. *The cost of higher education, whether public or private, has continued to significantly go up in the past 20 years. What do you see as the cause of that? What will you do, as legislator, to address it?*

Public education was born in Massachusetts. Today, we need new, progressive leaders in the House to ensure that Massachusetts remains the leader in public education, a key component to achieving our goal of economic justice.

The primary cause of the increased costs of public higher education stems from decisions that were made by Republican administrations beginning in 1998 through 2002 and had the result of lost revenue of between \$3-4B, every year, with subsequent cuts, every year, beginning in 2001.

The recent closure of Mt. Ida revealed a deep problem with the private system of colleges in conjunction with the UMass system and the Board of Higher Education; that's a failure of leadership. I'm glad Attorney General Maura Healey is looking into this issue (Mt. Ida).

These painful cuts to higher education mean increased fees for students, forcing many of them to carry higher loads of student debt. As a legislator, I will work tirelessly for universal early-education, and I will continue to fight for better K-12 funding, ultimately recalculating the Foundation Budget Funding Formula. Additionally I will work with others to reinvest in our public universities and achieve debt-free higher education options for all.

13. *Do you support charter schools? If no, why not? What changes, if any, do you advocate for –or have you personally advocated for in the past?*

I worked to defeat ballot question 2 in November 2016 -- and encouraged voters to vote no to lifting the cap on the number of charter schools.

As a member of the State's Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the sole authorizing entity for new or expanding charter schools, I have not supported charters when the community has not supported them and I have supported them when the community has supported them.

It's reasonable that families want a personalized education for their child, but the answer isn't charter schools, because that's not what they're about. Ultimately, it's competition for funding that charters offer, and this turns the whole thing into a resource problem because charters drain money and resources from schools and districts, thus increasing class sizes, resulting in fewer educators necessary to address student needs in the home core district. Considered another way, such a condition contributes to the very problem everyone says they are trying to solve – that of closing gaps.

At Board of Ed meetings, I have asked why are we taking proposals for expansion or for new charter school authorization, when the state is falling down on its commitment to reimburse districts? Or when numbers of districts report -- time and again -- the impact that expansion has had, or authorization will have, on strapped budgets and an out of date state funding formula?

It's an unhealthy cycle.

We all have a stake in the solid education of all our people, least of which are countless situations where our personal interests depend on others' competence, empathy, and compassion. Charter schools have become a powerful wedge for privatizing a public good and Massachusetts voters said

that was the wrong way to go when they voted 2:1 to oppose charter expansion (*Question2*). Nevertheless, unimpeded expansion of charter schools continues to represent a threat to adequate funding of core public schools.

14. *Gun crime continues to be a significant issue in some inner city and gateway communities around Massachusetts - sometimes, drug or gang related. Throughout the state, we live with the risk of random mass shootings in schools, at work, or in places of worship.*

What new gun control measures, if any, do you support at the state level?

As a Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America Candidate, I'm fighting for a future free of gun violence in our communities, in our schools, in our neighborhoods. As a Board of Education member, I voted to support the resolution not to arm teachers in schools or in classrooms.

Reducing and preventing gun violence is a public safety issue, not a political one. Over 35,000 Americans are killed every year by gun violence and thousands more are injured. We should do everything possible to keep guns out of the hands of felons, domestic abusers, and people with dangerous histories, knowing that respecting rights and protecting people go hand-in-hand.

Common-sense public safety measures make our communities safer and save lives. I will support any provision that strengthens our gun safety laws, including raising the minimum age for purchase of a handgun to 21 years, banning assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, restricting internet gun sales (including kits that can be used to make/modify guns), and closing loopholes on background checks. Concealed/carry should not be allowed across state lines when concealed/carry laws are not in force in the crossed-into state.

I was proud to vote with my colleagues on the Board of Ed to unanimously pass a resolution not to arm teachers in schools and classrooms. Voters may read the resolution here: <https://maryannstewart.org/2018/03/27/resolution-opposes-arming-educators/> I also wrote a letter to the editor of the Lexington Minuteman following the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and the advocacy of Lexington Says #Enough -- voters may read the letter here: <https://maryannstewart.org/2018/03/18/teachable-moments/>

15. *Will you take on any paid work in addition to State Representative? If you will continue to have other work, how will you deal with potential conflicts of interest?*

If I am elected as our next State Representative, I will work full-time for people of the 15th Middlesex and will not take on additional paid work.

16. *If elected, how will you continuously report back and seek feedback from voters?*

There are a range of options available for communicating with people in the community, including phone calls, emails, website, newsletters, social media, podcasting, and in-person meetings, such as office hours, conferences, meetings, and continuing regular policy discussions, not unlike Rep. Kaufman’s “Open House” series.

All candidates are asked to limit the response to each question to at most two or three paragraphs, and to provide the questionnaire responses by end of day Sunday, July 1st, 2017. Responses will not be edited, and will run as submitted. They will be posted on lex-wiki.org in PDF format and announced through other community media. Questionnaire coordinator Andrei Radulescu-Banu (bitdribble@gmail.com, 617-216-8509). Questionnaire reviewer: Joe Pato.
