

**NAME: Andrea Stephenson**

**PARTY: Democratic**

**SEEKING: Georgia House, District 104**

**Why are you seeking office?**

I have been endorsed by the Gwinnett Association of Educators because of my commitment to public education. No Democrat has run in HD104 in 8 years; the incumbent has not faced someone who values public education, public transportation, clean energy and health care for working families. I intend to work in my community and bring back Democratic values. I am not running as an incumbent career politician with elitist powerful donors. I will work entirely for and only for my constituents.

**What do you expect to accomplish if elected?**

Priorities for the district include improved education including higher teacher salaries, healthcare, and clean public transportation alternatives including light rail, buses and call-up van service, especially for seniors. I will protect

- Public education against funding cuts; against diversion of public education resources for corporate-backed, for-profit, private schools.
- Improve healthcare systems and costs from bottom third of country and expand access for all citizens using group rate pharmaceutical cost reductions, Medicaid Expansion, building hospitals, help protect pre-existing condition insurance

**What distinguishes your candidacy?**

The mere presence of another name on the ballot is distinguishing! Additionally,

- Endorsement: Gwinnett Federation of Educators
- Focusing on affordable health care for all citizens in my district
- Good government plays an important role in improving quality of life.

As Columbia University-educated Epidemiologist I advocate for public health, as teacher at FAMU and GPS I understand public education needs, as graduate of FSU Social Science and Public Affairs my experience includes performance improvement, women's issues, peer review, legislative/health organizations, children's mental health and senior services

**How can we improve school safety?**

I have helped run a bioterrorism international exercise; trained at Rutgers University and with the Gwinnett Citizens Police Academy and taught in Gwinnett schools. We need more school counselors, safety officers and educators personnel/students training in how to spot

and help troubled/potential terrorists. We need biosafety systems to keep people who don't belong in schools out and gun/explosion resistant glass entrance. We need to monitor students' mental health problems. We need to take guns out of schools, including colleges and teach gun safety and prevention.

**Pick one issue. Expand on how you will address it.**

Jobs, Economy and Infrastructure

- Keep more money in the pockets of working families through the Georgia Earned Income Tax Credit and the Cradle to Career Savings Program
- Generate thousands of long-term, good-paying jobs through small business capital and clean energy investment, and Medicaid expansion
- Invest in Georgia's infrastructure and education systems to create jobs, improve transit, support business, bridge the skills gap, and grow our workforce statewide
- Set a goal of 22,000 apprenticeships by 2022 to build a stronger path to the middle class
- Expand internships/apprenticeships/repayment programs for grads with massive student debt

**Please give a 100 word summary on your background.**

I live in Dacula, Gwinnett County and am happily married to my husband Jim. I am a health care professional and small business owner. I've developed programs in children's mental health, fatherhood, economic services, bioterrorism, juvenile justice, diseases, education, transportation, Alzheimer's disease, performance improvement, census. aging/adult services, HIV/AIDS, and other public health and legislative programs. I am a member of the Gwinnett Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association. I have been appointed to public committees and served on community boards.