

# 2018 OutFront Minnesota Action School Board

## Questionnaire

Thank you for your interest in an endorsement from OutFront Minnesota Action. If you have questions or would like to discuss the endorsement process, please contact Beth Fraser, PAC Char, [bethfraser1@gmail.com](mailto:bethfraser1@gmail.com). The questionnaire is due September 19, 2018 at 12pm.

\* Required



Candidate Name \* **Rebecca Gagnon**

Which Pronouns does the candidate use? \* **She/Her/Hers**

Candidate Phone Number \* **612-865-9465**

Candidate Email \* **rgagnon247@gmail.com**

Campaign Website \* [www.RebeccaforMN.com](http://www.RebeccaforMN.com)

Please write a short statement on how you will promote equity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ) students. (200 character max) \*

**Ensure our practices reflect work I've championed to integrate LGBTQ rights in to policies & procedures for safe, inclusive and supportive school environments; curriculum that reflects ALL students; social emotional well-being.**

**Must be fewer than 200 characters**

Why are you seeking the endorsement of OutFront Minnesota Action? \*

**I apologize I missed the deadline. Your organization has a large base of supporters that align with my progressive liberal values. Your advocacy for LGBTQ youth, along with other organizations, is vital to our work in MPS to provide access to quality, equitable, and holistic education to ALL students, meeting them where they are in their life journey of self discovery.**

What is your strategic plan to win? \*

**Grassroots campaigning as I have done in my past two campaigns, including door knocking, constant contact emails, social media and word of mouth networking across the city. I have a strong base that is working their individual networks to get out the vote for me in November, just as they helped me to come in second (with no Labor or party endorsements) in the primary. I will continue to raise money but my main focus is voter outreach and continuing to build my base of support through direct voter contact.**

With whom do you consult regarding questions about LGBTQ-related issues? \*

**Students, families, friends and neighbors in the LGBTQ community, community experts and community advocacy groups.**

The Safe and Supportive Schools Act, Minnesota’s bullying prevention and intervention law, includes explicit protection for sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression.

Will you 1) support anti-bullying policies for your district that meet the criteria under this Act and 2) work to ensure the successful implementation of these policies? \*

Yes **X**

No

Do you support or oppose comprehensive sexuality education offered by public schools that is medically accurate, age-appropriate, and inclusive of LGBTQ issues? \*

Support **X**

Oppose

In 2017, the Minnesota Department of Education released “A Toolkit for Ensuring Safe and Supportive Schools for Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students.” This booklet was compiled “to provide information to assist schools in establishing or amending school policies to ensure all students are provided with a safe and supportive school environment.” Will you support policies for your district that help staff support transgender and gender nonconforming students? These policies typically aim to prevent discrimination, bullying, and harassment, as well as help school officials collaborate with parents, and each other. \*

Support **X**

Oppose

We know as an LGBTQ community that liberation is not given, it must be fought for. We have seen that there are significant disparities in opportunity and discipline in Minnesota schools for communities of color. A number of organizations are fighting to dismantle institutional racism, but it will take leadership and action from our elected leaders. Would you support policies, as a school board member, that aim to ensure racial equity, including for LGBTQ people of color? \*

Support **X**

Oppose