



Colonial Heights Republican Committee

2026 SURVEY FOR COLONIAL HEIGHTS SCHOOL BOARD

Candidate: Lance L. LaLonde

1. Please tell us a bit about your background and involvement in the community.

My wife and I moved to Colonial Heights in 1987 and decided to put down roots here. We raised 3 sons, all graduates of Colonial Heights school system. I was employed by the U-Haul Company managing several locations in Richmond area. My commitment to the community included several years as an assistant baseball coach and most recently as a public school substitute teacher and middle school teacher of eighteen years at my local church.

2. Do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent? If Republican, are you in accord with [The Republican Creed](#)?

As required by the Virginia Constitution I am running as an Independent. By-and-large I have always supported the Republican platform and policies including but not limited to the Republican Creed.

3. Please tell us why you are running for School Board.

The Colonial Heights Schools were once ranked in the top 10 in Virginia. We now rank from average or a little better than average. We once heard from folks moving to our city it was because of the outstanding schools for their children, I haven't heard that in quite a few years! I believe this is a trend we can stop and reverse.

4. What are two or three things that Colonial Heights Public Schools are doing well?

First, we are excellent at praising and recognizing outstanding students and staff. Second, Overall administration and organization of public school policies are on point.

5. *What are two or three things that the Colonial Heights Public Schools need to improve on?*

Involvement and engagement of parents in the education of their children. An improvement in communication between teachers and administrators.

6. *How will you seek to be responsive to city residents if elected to the School Board?*

We chose to have an elected school board. Communication with citizens is expected. Of course, choosing to respond is not optional. I'm always available through email, phone, text. social media. Showing up and availability are key.

7. *What is the proper role of parents in their child(ren)'s public school education?*

They are the most important role!. I'm all for parental rights and parental responsibilities play a crucial part in that role. The school is an extension of the family not the other way around!

8. *How should schools incorporate the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the classroom, if at all?*

Like any tool, AI and technology are just that, tools. Tools can be used correctly and beneficially and equally used improperly and to one's detriment. We have enough data to make wise and common sense decisions on their use.

9. *Is there anything else you would like to share that was not already asked?*

I'm old enough and experienced enough to understand the role of education and its impact on individuals. I've seen the good, the bad and the ugly I've seen education and its impact from the perspectives of an employer, college student, teacher and mentor.