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Q1 About Candidates

Candidate Name	Aimy S.L. Steele
District	82
Party Affiliation	Democrat
Campaign Website	http://www.aimysteele.com

Q2 What has been your personal experience with nonprofits as a board member, employee, volunteer, or donor? How do these experiences shape your policy positions? (Limit: 300 words)

I have been a longtime supporter of local non-profits through donating time and money to the following non-profits: Esther's Heart for Transformation, New Life Baptist Church Non-Profit, the West Cabarrus YMCA, the United Way, the Cabarrus Arts Council, the Boys and Girls Club of Cabarrus County, and the Jack and Jill of America Foundation. Each experience has helped me gain more appreciation for the work done by those organizations. I have seen first hand what types of policies and procedures lead to better informed non-profit organizations.

Q3 If elected, what would be your top three policy priorities? (Limit: 250 words)

If elected, I will immediately work to raise per pupil spending in our classrooms including funding for the Arts, lower health care costs, raise teacher pay, and allocate funds for to fight the opioid crisis. Right now, we rank 39th in per pupil spending and teacher pay. It is unacceptable that many of our teachers have to work two jobs just to make ends meet and as a principal, I have seen firsthand the need to have better funding in our classrooms and for our students. Additionally, our state's health care premiums are among the highest in the country and continue to rise each year. We need to reign in costs and work to get more people quality insurance, not less. Right now, our country has been ravished by an opioid crisis that both the state and federal government have failed to properly respond to. We need better funding for our first responders and we can look to other states that have reduced their overdoses for a better way forward.

Four Questions for Candidates for Office in 2018

Q4 What is your position on these tax issues that affect charitable nonprofits?

Preserving or expanding tax exemption for charitable nonprofits

5 (strongly support)

Encouraging individuals and businesses to give generously to nonprofits serving their communities

5 (strongly support)

Please add any comments about tax policies that affect nonprofits. (Limit: 250 words):

Non-profits do very important work in our community, including work that sometimes our federal and state government fail to provide. We need to do everything we can to support non-profits and give them the tools they need to succeed.

Q5 What policies would you propose to promote continued job growth for private employers, including both nonprofit and for-profit business employers? (Limit: 250 words)

Non-profits and the private sector provide a sizable percentage of our jobs here in NC. We need to continue to offer tax incentives for our local nonprofit organizations in order to give them the ability to thrive. Regarding for-profit employers, our state needs to do everything we can to continue to attract businesses to our region. As a successful business owner, I understand the time and money it takes to make a company successful. Recent legislation that has been enacted by our general assembly has only served to turn off businesses from coming here. I will support policies that encourage businesses and non-profits here without discrimination and without costing our state billions in lost revenue.
