

Timestamp

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Candidate's name

Stephanie Gallardo

Candidate's email address

stephanie@electstephaniegallardo.com

Candidate's phone number

206-552-xxxx

Office and position sought (e.g. LD 50 legislature, position 2)

WA CD-09

Are you an incumbent running for re-election?

No

Have you ever served in an elected position? If so, what position, and when?

Since graduating from her Master's in Teaching program at Western Washington University, Stephanie has been working as a History teacher in the Tukwila School District. Working with a student and community population that boasts nearly 80 languages has prepared her well to understand the varying and intersecting needs of communities across the 9th Congressional District. In her second year of teaching in 2018, Stephanie was elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the Washington Education Association, and was elected in 2019 to the Board of Directors of the largest labor union in the country, the National Education Association.

How many other Democratic candidates are there in your race (at the time you fill this out)?

One - the incumbent

I am willing to be identified with the Democratic Party (except judicial candidates)

Yes

Link to campaign web page and/or Facebook and other Social Media

https://www.electgallardo.com/

https://www.twitter.com/electgallardo

https://www.facebook.com/electgallardo

https://www.instagram.com/electgallardo

Term of office

2 years

Campaign manager contact information (name, email, phone number)

Maria Abando

maria@electstephaniegallardo.com

243-970-xxxx

Campaign consultant contact information (name, email, phone number)

none

Do you agree to not accept campaign donations from fossil fuel companies?

Yes

Have you signed or will you sign the No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge (https://nofossilfuelmoney.org)?

Yes

Why are you running for this position? What in your background has led you to run? (100 word limit)

After 5 short years of teaching, I was pushed to the brink of exhaustion and tired of hearing politicians talk about policies for schools they've never been in. While contemplating quitting, my father was diagnosed with cancer. I took a leave of absence to care for him. The conversations leading to his death were rooted in a beautiful vision of prosperity. As I watched him cast the last vote of his life for Bernie Sanders in the 2020 primary, I knew I had to carry on his legacy of activism and stand up with my community by running for Congress.

What are your most significant accomplishments on environment and climate change?

To be quite frank, I didn't fully understand the urgency of the climate crisis until the 2016 election cycle, in my first year of teaching. As I began teaching 11th and 12th grade United States History and Multilingual History classes it was students who shined a light on the activism being undertaken by Gen Z. I saw Sunrise chapters all across the country holding climate demonstrations. I watched students plan and execute school board speeches, sit ins, die ins, and mass demonstrations, all part of a well organized campaign for the planet. Inspired by the young people, I for the first time endeavored to understand the factors leading us toward climate devastation. I sincerely believe my most significant accomplishment is creating an environmental justice curriculum informed by the local climate concerns of my students who are predominantly immigrants and refugees. These lessons are also accessible for students who speak multiple languages and are learning English. I truly believe in the power of education. It is a means to cultivate activism both in the streets and in our institutions, where power is wielded over our earth.

Briefly list organizations, events, rallies, canvassing, referendums, or petitions you have engaged in to advocate for environmental protections?

Aside from advocating for environmental protections as a member of DSA, I was proud to have recently been a panelist on the Tacoma Housing Green New Deal Town Hall alongside Sunrise Tacoma and DSA in October 2021. I have taken the GND Champions Pledge to work for a Green New Deal. https://gndchampions.com/champions/

If elected or re-elected what specific environment, climate change, biodiversity, and environmental justice legislation will you prioritize and champion?

I unapologetically support The Green New Deal, and as a teacher, emphasize my support for The Green New Deal for Public Schools. Redirecting federal resources, including money, infrastructure, and people, away from the U.S. military and toward implementing solutions to climate change is necessary! It will allow us to fund a just energy transition by investing directly in renewable energy alternatives. As these alternatives become available to working people at low cost, we can discourage use of fossil fuels through various policies that raise prices, including the elimination of subsidies. We also need a greatly expanded renewable power generation system so that we can convert all of our direct uses of fossil fuelsâ€"for transportation, for agriculture, for manufacturing, for heatâ€"to uses of carbon-free electricity instead with wind turbines on land and offshore, solar panels on rooftops and in utility scale plants, and water energy not only from existing dams, but from construction of geothermal, wave, and tidal energy plants. All of this requires a robust national electric transmission grid, to connect varying regions in real time. Electric utility bills can be kept low by stipulating that the benefits of Federal money are passed on to rate-payers rather than pocketed as profit. Additionally, federal grant conditions and contracts can stipulate that the jobs must offer union scale pay and benefits to support workers. And finally, we must address disparities of impacts of climate disasters by meeting basic needs (income, housing, medical care, water, clean air), by providing a federal jobs guarantee, and by addressing racism and other systems of oppression.

For state office positions, what action will you take to accelerate efforts towards Washington State's 2030 Climate Goals, specifically a 45% reduction of carbon pollution below 1990 levels?

n/a