

# #31

COMPLETE

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**Q1** Which of these arts did you have as part of your K-12 education?

**Dance,**  
**Music,**  
**Theatre,**  
**Visual Arts**

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**Q2** How did learning in the arts impact your education and life after high school??

I grew up in Hollywood CA. It would be hard to find a way that art has not impacted my education and my life.

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**Q3** How would you describe the current status of arts education in your district? What's good, and where is there room for improvement?The arts (dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts) are a core subject in our state definition of basic education, and in federal law.(1) However, the reality is that many schools are not providing adequate arts instruction.(2)

I am a huge proponent of music instruction and musical performance. All the arts are useful, but music probably gives the most return on investment.

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**Q4** How would you describe your role in ensuring that there is an equitable provision of standards-based arts instruction for all students in your district? What strategies would you use to support this?A well-rounded curriculum is a key part of a high-quality education. However, studies(3) show that over the past decade the arts have been crowded out of the school day.

There are finite dollars, and the question is almost never what we support, but what we are willing to cut. I think there are several things less beneficial than music instruction.

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**Q5** How do you see the arts playing a role in student success in your district?Extensive research (4) has shown that arts education increases student engagement. It helps close opportunity gaps, reduces dropout rates, helps more students be college-ready, and develops the creativity needed in the 21st-century workforce.

Collaborative arts and arts that have a big mathematical dimension teach life skills and transfer into many other areas.

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DO VOTERS KNOW YOUR VIEWS ON ARTS EDUCATION?

**Q6** If elected, which of these strategies would you consider for supporting arts education in your district? (Check all that apply)

**Research current arts programs and assess needs at district buildings.**

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**Work for a budget to financially support arts instruction at all schools.**

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**Utilize arts organizations to support arts instruction and professional development for classroom teachers.**

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**Develop or update a district level arts plan. Outline policies, goals, and strategies for implementing arts education for all students.**

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**Share research about the benefits of arts learning with colleagues.**

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**Q7** Please enter your name and school district.

Name

**Jason Skifstad**

School District, Position Number

**Central Kitsap School District, Position 5**

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