

#43

COMPLETE

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

Dance,
Media Arts,
Music,
Theatre,
Visual Arts

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

Theatre arts is something that I was able to use after high school to help support my family. Having arts in the schools helps to give a student a more well rounded perspective of the world, and it can even spark interest in something that the student would not otherwise do.

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)

There is always room for improvement. We have experienced teachers that utilize arts in the classroom to supplement the learning. This has had a great impact on my children on how they can learn, not every student can learn just from a book or lecture. I have also seen teachers that do not use the arts in the classroom. Our district currently has a high priority on STEM learning, which is good, however it tends to come at a cost to the arts. You need to have both in order to have a good learning environment, especially when the students get into the higher grades.

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.

A school director supports the vision of the superintendent, and where they are "off base" helps to guide the process back. It seems many times that students are being taught how to pass a test, instead of how to learn. One of my favorite teachers for my children was constantly using arts in the classroom to teach core subjects. This had a great effect on the students, they were excited to learn and to attend the class. This would be one of the strategies I would like to see, using the arts to teach core principles. This process can greatly help visual learners, which we are creating more of due to the prevalence of media use in the home and schools.

DO VOTERS KNOW YOUR VIEWS ON ARTS EDUCATION?

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.

Arts play a critical role in creating a well-rounded student. In my experience, those people who are well-rounded are much better at being successful after they have graduated. If a person has only a single focus (such as STEM) pushed on them during their school years, they will have a much more difficult time being successful in areas that are not STEM related.

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

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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Find opportunities under ESSA to use federal funds to support arts education.

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Share research about the benefits of arts learning with colleagues.

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Research current arts programs and assess needs at district buildings.

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Other Ideas (please specify):

the research and assessment needs to come before creating a task force to make a change. I fully intend to look into arts as well as vocational training classes in the district if elected.

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Q7 Please enter your name and school district.

Name

Jeffrey Peterson

School District, Position Number

Pasco School District 1, Position 5

Twitter Account (if you'd like to be tagged)

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