

#23

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

Media Arts,
Music,
Theatre,
Visual Arts

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

I studied music and theater at university. The arts and its place in education has always been something that I advocate for.

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 do not think that we provide enough time, resources or emphasis on the art in our educational system. I believe that we have talented teachers and community members that work hard at providing opportunities but the place of arts and the strength they bring to our academic programs could be emphasised more.

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.

My role would be to support policy, employees and community members that use data and opportunity to include the arts in our schools. Not as extra activities but as core subjects that help build depth and breadth of knowledge

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.

I believe the research is valid. Having a strong integrated arts program elevates student readiness for their future.

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)

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

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Create a local arts education task-force.

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

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

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Research current arts programs and assess needs at district buildings.

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Q7 Please enter your name and school district.

Name

Tosha Woods

School District, Position Number

Ellensburg School District, Position 4
