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Q1 Name

Beth Ficklin

Q2 Email Address

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Q3 Want us to tag you on social media? Please share your @

@ficklinforschools

Q4 Which of these arts did you have as part of your own K-12 education?

Music,
Theatre,
Visual Arts

Q5 How did learning in the arts impact your education and life after high school?

I have to say that the biggest impact in my life was in learning math. I really struggled in elementary school learning fractions. I remember the day it really clicked for me, sitting at piano bench at piano lessons.

While I didn't go on to be even a decent pianist, I did end up focusing on statistics in college. I can say for sure that I am more successful in life because of arts education.

Q6 How would you describe the current status of arts education for Elementary students in your district? (The arts are a core subject in our state definition of basic education and in federal law.)

Dance	Not available
Media Arts	Available
Music	Robust
Theatre	Available
Visual Arts	Available

Q7 How would you describe the current status of arts education for Middle School students in your district?

Dance	Not available
Media Arts	Adequate
Music	Robust
Theatre	Needs Improvement
Visual Arts	Adequate

Q8 How would you describe the current status of arts education for High School students in your district? (Two arts credits are required for graduation.)

Dance	Not available
Media Arts	Available
Music	Robust
Theatre	Robust
Visual Arts	Available

Q9 Research has shown that arts education increases student engagement, helps close opportunity gaps, and reduces dropout rates, yet a recent study in King County shows that race and income are barriers to access to the arts. How do you see yourself addressing fair access in your district?

I think that one of the focuses should be to improve dignity for students in need. I see my role as increasing parental awareness. I am working to shift the idea that people need to "qualify" for borrowing an instrument, or dance uniform, or art supplies. I would love to work with our local pta/o's and boosters to identify ways that together as a community we can help provide better access to needed supplies, no questions asked, and no forms. I think that it is important to eliminate having to prove that you are "poor enough" to need help, or access to arts supplies, you just get them if you ask. I think that by eliminating embarrassment it will allow more families to participate in these programs.

Q10 If elected, which of these strategies would you consider to support arts education in your district?

- Research current arts program and assess needs at district buildings**
- ,
- Work for a budget to financially support arts instruction at all schools**
- ,
- Support professional development for classroom teachers**
- ,
- Create a local arts education task-force**
- ,
- Develop or update a district level arts plan.**
- ,
- Support arts inclusion professional development opportunities**
- ,
- Develop or expand district support for teaching artist residencies**
- ,
- Expand district-wide data collection for tracking and accountability**

Q11 If elected, would you like Arts, Culture & Education updates from ArtsEd Washington?

Yes
