

# #95

**COMPLETE**

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**Q1 Name**

Hilary Seidel

**Q2 Email Address**

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

**Respondent skipped this question**

**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?

As someone who loved and studied theater from elementary through college, I have a strong opinion about the arts ability to build skills in compassion, team work, organization, and strategic thinking. Even though I don't work in theater professionally (and never have), I use the skills I learned on stage and back stage every day in my professional and volunteer life.

**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	<b>Not available</b>
Media Arts	<b>Not available</b>
Music	<b>Available</b>
Theatre	<b>Adequate</b>
Visual Arts	<b>Needs Improvement</b>

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

Dance	<b>Not available</b>
Media Arts	<b>Adequate</b>
Music	<b>Available</b>
Theatre	<b>Available</b>
Visual Arts	<b>Needs Improvement</b>

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**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.)

Media Arts	<b>Adequate</b>
Music	<b>Available</b>
Theatre	<b>Available</b>
Visual Arts	<b>Available</b>

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**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?

At OSD we're working to expand arts and music specialist allocations across elementary schools - beginning with our highest poverty schools.

Right now, theater is available only sporadically at our elementary schools (and mostly because the adult support orgs put together after school productions. I'd like to find a way to subsidize those opportunities at the elementary level. Our foundation has done a great job organizing an initiative to connect students across the district at all levels to professional performances, and I'd like to see us do more as far as vertical alignment - so getting our high school students out to do performances at the elementary schools.

We also have some fantastic community partners in Olympia, and I'd like to see us work collaboratively with those partners to increase instruction opportunities outside of the school day. This could look like creating workshop subsidies or expanding camps and enrichments offered after school and during breaks.

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**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**

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

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**Support cultural access legislation**

Other (please specify):

Right now, we're working to insert specific indicators and measurements around arts access into our strategic plan. I believe this data collection will help us drive more resources and time towards arts instruction. Although I support artists in residence generally (and I think it's wonderful for our kids to see working artists as actual members of our community), I want to focus on getting expert art teachers into all of our elementary schools over the next several years. This hasn't happened in recent memory in our district, so it's a big shift and will require us to stay focused on getting those positions allocated to arts and music rather than reading and math intervention.

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

**Yes**

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