

#24

COMPLETE

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Q1 Name

Carolyn Watson

Q2 Email Address

carolynwatson@comcast.net

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?

Dance,
Media Arts,
Music,
Theatre,
Visual Arts

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

My high school arts education prepared me to be a photographer for the college newspaper and yearbook. I enjoyed this, made friends through photography, and was paid for my work, which helped with college expenses!

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.)

Music	Robust
Theatre	Available
Visual Arts	Robust

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

Dance	Available
Media Arts	Robust
Music	Robust
Theatre	Available
Visual Arts	Robust

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	Available
Media Arts	Robust
Music	Robust
Theatre	Robust
Visual Arts	Robust

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 support the current Bellevue School District's programs in the arts, and am working towards eliminating fees and barriers. Currently, all Bellevue elementary students visit music and art specialist teachers once a week. All fifth graders are given an opportunity to learn an instrument. To help remove barriers, instruments are provided free of cost to families that can not afford to rent one. Music and art electives are available to all secondary students. Sammamish High School, which has the highest percentage of free and reduced lunch kids in our district, has a special program in hot glass art which engages students. Engagement fosters equity. The school board has passed a policy to eliminate fees for all programs that are part of a students core education. This includes eliminating art and music fees for all students to provide more equitable access for all.

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

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

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Support professional development for classroom teachers

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Support arts inclusion professional development opportunities

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Develop or expand district support for teaching artist residencies

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Expand district-wide data collection for tracking and accountability

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Support cultural access legislation

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Other (please specify):

This comment doesn't fit in any of your boxes, but I rave about the arts education my own child received in Bellevue. He was able to take six years (12 semesters!) of studio art from 7th through 12th grades including ceramics, photography, hot glass, drawing, and much more. This was part of the standard curriculum at the International School of Bellevue (a choice public school). The comprehensive high schools in Bellevue don't require such a rigorous arts program, but they do have the classes available, and I encourage kids to sign up for them.

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

Yes, and please send me the studies referenced in the survey