

District	Office	Party	Name	Do you agree that studying fine arts helps improve student performance in other academic courses?	Do you agree that student involvement in fine arts reduces the drop-out rate?	Do you agree that instruction in fine arts helps enhance college readiness?	Do you agree that creativity is a trait highly valued by employers?	Do you support the current policy that fine arts are a part of the core curriculum?	Do you support or oppose removing students from fine arts courses for test preparation and remediation?	Are you willing to become a member of a fine arts education caucus?	Comments
2	House	REP	Dan Flynn	Yes	Yes	Yes	Need more info	Support	Need more info	Undecided	
											I think there is much to be debated regarding a core curriculum itself. As far as I am concerned as long as core curriculum is required by the state of Texas, both fine arts and physical education should be required throughout the entire time a student is in school. I choose to say this because I believe that both mental and physical health of a young adult is important. I do not support any system that makes a student choose between the two. I would see that during this crucial learning phase, they are given a chance to truly develop so that their potential maybe unlocked fully by the time they reach adulthood. Libertarians support removing the barriers to choice and competition in education, allowing parents more flexibility in deciding where and how to educate their children. We would further seek to restore control over public schools (schooling) exclusively to the state level where it belongs, with an emphasis on local education boards. Until such a time that we can truly develop such a strong educational system, my preference is to maintain fine arts requirements if not to strengthen them.
2	Senate	LIB	Don Bates	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
											Fine arts Fine arts in school helps promote children's creativity and appreciation for nature and the surroundings. Fine arts inspires a realization that the world has more to offer than just science and mathematics, children are better served with the appreciation and realization of natural sounds and beauty. Music allows the brain to know no boundaries and to perceive infinite opportunities of creativity. Art is the expression of creativity that the student can express to the world.
3	House	LIB	Larry Parr	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
											Music was a huge part of my education. I was in band all throughout high school and well into college, and it taught me an appreciation for both the artform and the discipline of learning and honing a craft. Academics are obviously important, but so too is the ability to express ones self creatively. While I do not believe art should necessarily be FORCED upon all students, it should always be an option and should ALWAYS be encouraged and available for those who wish to participate.
3	SBOE	LIB	Josh Morales	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Need more info	
											The fine arts play an important role in a well-rounded education. Study of the fine arts encourages students to become more widely-versed in our culture and often serves to introduce them to other cultures. We must remember that the purpose of public education is NOT to "create a workforce for the 21st Century." The notion of polytechnic schooling is offensive. Public education exists to create well-rounded, knowledgeable CITIZENS. If we produce responsible, communicative, productive citizens, our workforce needs will take care of themselves.
3	SBOE	REP	Dave Mundy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
											I took 5 years of piano and participated in many recitals. All three of my children were very active in civit theater from elementary till high school graduation. My 2 girls took dance all through school and one attended Emerson College Boston to continue her training in the arts. My wife was a director of plays for civic theater for many years and I bilt the stage sets. My mother, grandmother, as well as my sister and two aunts were commercial artists. My sister also has an art school.
3	Senate	REP	Robert Nichols					Support	Oppose	Need more info	
											Question #6 I put Undecided because I am not sure if "core curriculum" was talking about common core which I oppose. As far as having to have at least one Fine Arts credit to graduate I am favor of or Support.
4	House	LIB	Frederick Rick Stralow	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Oppose	Yes	
											I am a drama, dance instructor by degree and I also play a musical instrument and have always believed that the fine arts plays an important role in the creativity and discipline that is necessary for the students to achieve their goals and objectives for all subjects. It takes color, rhythm, and sound to give a student options to learn and develop the mind of all who are in the education system from the time they begin school until the time for graduation, K-12th and higher education.
4	SBOE	REP	Dorothy M. Olmos	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
											I would not join the caucus because the State of Texas should not be mandating what is taught in our schools. I am a strong supporter of vouchers and home schooling. I understand this is not for everyone and a majority of the students in the state would use their vouchers to go to the same school they are attending today. Schools should decide their own curriculum and activities. Parents sending their kids to those schools should be the measure of how well a school is doing. Please do not ask the State of Texas to make the STAAR test less onerous. The state of Texas is who imposed the tests on us in the first place. Relaxing the rules is not doing us a favor, it is just an adjustment of their demands.
5	Senate	LIB	Matthew Whittington	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Undecided	Oppose	No	

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6	House	LIB	Joel Gardner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	like Need more info	I don't believe that the state or national government should control the schools, but I do support music and the arts. I went to college on a music scholarship myself.
7	SBOE	DEM	Kathy King	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I strongly believe that fine arts often give a student a feeling of acceptance and success that often can not be felt through academic classes. Fine arts are one of the few opportunities that kids are allowed to show their uniqueness.
7	SBOE	LIB	Megan R. DaGata	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I think I was lucky growing up. I was able to participate in choir, dance, theater, and more throughout elementary, junior high, and high school. I learned many key traits sought by top companies and hiring managers. We, corporate businesses, need people who are not afraid to stand out. We need people who have learned how to work with a group to make beautiful music. We need people who follow their own path. The path of the artist teaches them to toughen up to criticism and be gracious and resilient. Keep trying, keep doing, keep building on the past experience. These are not traits easily taught outside of the arts. These are traits I wouldn't have learned without the support of my educators and mentors growing up. I wholeheartedly support fine arts education in public schools and would support any measures to keep the arts in the classroom.
7	Senate	LIB	Whitney Bilyeu	Yes	Need more info	Yes	Need more info	Support	Oppose	Yes	
7	Senate	LIB	Whitney Bilyeu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
8	Senate	LIB	Scott Jameson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
9	Senate	DEM	Gregory R. Perry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I can't say I am objective about your survey, as I was in the school band from 6th grade until the end of my sophomore year in college.
10	Senate	DEM	Libby Willis	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	When I grew up in Abilene during the 1960s and 1970s, I was the beneficiary of great public school choir programs which I began in 4th grade. I remained a member of our elementary, junior high, and high school concert choirs until I graduated from Cooper High School in 1977. Besides being a member of U.I.L. award winning choirs, I also always participated in U.I.L. Solo and Ensemble competitions in junior high and high school. Several times I was a member of All Region and All District choirs. The summer after my junior year, our choir spent 3 weeks in Europe performing in 5 major cities as part of the International Youth and Music Festival. Ours was the first high school choir from Abilene ever invited to participate in that festival. What an experience!!! (Our choir members remain so close almost 40 years after that experience that we are planning a Cooper High School Concert Choir reunion -- with our beloved choir director, Bobbie Sumerlin -- for the Spring of 2015.) I was also a Speech Team member in high school. These experiences enriched my life enormously and opened up new worlds to me. I continue to sing to this day. As a community member of the Site Based Management Team at Amon Carter-Riverside High School in Fort Worth, an inner city school where 83% of the students are economically disadvantaged, I am so happy to say that the interest of our students in the fine arts, all varieties, is exploding. Our student academic performance is constantly improving. Last year, of Fort Worth's 18 high schools, we had the No. 2 graduation rate in the city. We had the No. 1 passing rate of any Fort Worth ISD high school for the Spring 2014 semester. Fine arts are making a difference for our students! I could not be a stronger supporter of fine arts education in our public schools both because of my own experience and the great school where I am privileged to sit on the Site Based Management Team. When I get to Austin to serve Senate District 10, I will be a huge supporter of fine arts education in all our Texas public schools.
10	Senate	GRN	John Tunmire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Need more info	Support	Oppose	Yes	
10	Senate	LIB	Gene Lord	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Oppose	Oppose	Yes	I am against common core!! Fine arts allow for expression and creativity that might otherwise go lost in a straight academic school.
11	House	REP	Travis Clardy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Support	Yes	

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12	SBOE	DEM	Lois Parrott, Ph.D.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	My name is Lois Parrott, Ph. D. a full-time professor at Richland College in Fine Arts and a former Texas certified public school music and fine arts teacher. I teach the Fine Arts and have taught music and art in our public schools as well as taught private piano and trumpet lessons. I have also served on the Dallas Independent School Board and the Dallas County School Boards for 13 years. During my tenure on the DISD Board of Education we added with the help of the Board to the budget funding for more orchestra and band instruments each year. I am remembered as an advocate for students and teachers, and parents. If my opponent wins she will have been there 28 years. There has not been a push for the Fine Arts. I know because I teach in a community college and I see our students who come to us. We need a change. She says the STAAR is great and it is aligned to the TEKS but it is not and the Commissioner had to suspend the 5th and 8th graders test scores because the Math test was not in alignment with the course material. My opponent also does not think that the \$5.4 should be restored to our schools and stated that publicly. I will appreciate your help getting out the information so we have a good turn out of voters at the election.
12	SBOE	REP	Tincy Miller	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
14	House	DEM	Andrew Metscher	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	My sister is a music major and is experiencing the hardships of working in the arts in a Texas school. Through her, I get to hear some of the horror stories about how cuts can happen.
14	House	LIB	Bruce L. Pugh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Oppose	Oppose	No	
14	House	REP	John Raney	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Need more info	
15	Senate	DEM	John Whitmire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
16	House	DEM	Michael Hayles, Sr.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I performed in several bands from 7th Grade thru 12th Grade and received five music scholarships as a result. I also performed in our High School Theater Club and I believe my music and acting exposure helped me become a more rounded individual and it has helped me in all aspects of my life. Therefore, I fully support and would love to serve in making sure that Music and Fine Arts are kept as a core part of all students learning experience, if they choose to do so. Sincerely, Michael Hayles, Sr.
17	House	DEM	Carolyn Banks	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Support	Need more info	Yes	I support arts opportunities for adults in communities too. I support the work of Texas Commission on the Arts.
17	Senate	DEM	Rita Lucido	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
17	Senate	GRN	David R Courtney	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Support	Oppose	Yes	I am a professional musician and a music teacher. But I look around and see the corruption of our society by the corporate culture. The fine arts, including music, is one of the few things that we have to counter these corrupting social influences.
19	House	REP	James White	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Mr. Boothman the band director at Lumberton is one of my trusted advisors on these important issues
23	Senate	DEM	Royce West	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Support	Undecided	Yes	
25	Senate	DEM	Daniel C. Boone	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	As an adult I have learned that being able to present yourself to the world of business and society is critical if you wish to be successful in life. The Fine Arts Education is where these skills are learned. Are they important- critical. As for the STARR test, I think the test is useless for any purpose and provides no useful information of benefit to the student,teacher or school.
26	House	DEM	Amber Paaso	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I played flute throughout junior high and high school which was often the one class I always looked forward to attending. My son loves choir. The arts are vital to our children's education and our culture as a whole.
26	House	REP	Rick Miller	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I believe very strongly in a quality arts education for Texas pulbic education students.

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46	House	LIB	Kevin Ludlow	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I have been and will always be a tremendous supporter of the arts, most especially when it comes to education. I have been openly vocal about this topic for many years as I've seen arts programs marginalized around the country. There is no doubt that art-related studies are wonderfully beneficial to child development. Creativity, pattern recognition, spatial cognitive abilities and so many other skills can be directly correlated to such programs. Art programs are also beneficial in creating well-rounded children, something I feel we have entirely given up on in our academic pursuits as a nation. I have been playing music for just about 30 years of my life. I play a number of instruments and am sure this will continue throughout the remainder of my life. There is no doubt that music has contributed tremendously to my academic abilities. I currently sit on the board of directors for GenerourArt, a non-profit society that helps artists sell their work. We donate a significant portion of each sale to charities thus furthering their causes too. I also sit on the board of directors for the Rude Mechanicals, a local Austin theater company. Both of these organizations dedicate themselves not only to their own respective practices, but more importantly to educating children in the arts. I am very proud of the work we do and very proud to be a part of these organizations. I believe that anything we can do to connect children with art is a powerful step for the future of our country and I support any efforts to do this.
49	House	DEM	Elliott Naishtat	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Keep up the great, important work. I, along with the children/students of Texas, their parents and their loved ones, thank you!
53	House	LIB	Maximilian Martin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Support	Oppose	Need more info	Fine arts contribute to balancing the curriculum mandated by our public school system. Many students benefit both directly and indirectly from these programs. As long as state funding continues to underwrite our public education, I support the inclusion of fine arts within its budget.
56	House	LIB	Clifford 'Clif' Deuwall	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	As a former educator, I firmly believe that fine arts educational programs are essential to the development of all students.
58	House	REP	DeWayne Burns	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Need more info	
61	House	DEM	Matthew Britt	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Having taken both music and art classes during high school, I personally know the value of these classes and support expansion and increased funding for them in our public schools.
64	House	DEM	Emy Lyons	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
64	House	REP	Myra Crownover	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Undecided	Yes	
65	House	DEM	Alex Mendoza	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
76	House	LIB	Jose Alexandro Lozano	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Support	Yes	Knowing firsthand that all kids in music and fine arts are always doing
77	House	IND	Ben E. Mendoza	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	It's time for all Texans to be in tune.
80	House	GRN	Marco Buentello	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Thank you for this opportunity.
83	House	DEM	Max Ralph Tarbox	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I am committed to improving and enhancing our public school system, and I certainly believe that fine arts plays an essential role in providing a complete education.
84	House	REP	John Frullo	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Support	Need more info	Yes	
92	House	DEM	Tina Penney	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	As the daughter of professional musicians, public school music educators, and the mother of a son who participated in and benefited from Texas' public school music programs, I am well aware of the importance of and positive results of fine arts activities both during and after students' school careers.
94	House	DEM	Cole Ballweg	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
95	House	REP	Albert G. McDaniel	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I have long believed that all elementary school students should be taught ballroom dancing for the many associated benefits. Simple dance steps like Foxtrot teach rhythm, coordination and even respect for your dance partner & others. This PE Credit could be earned either at the school itself or by enrolling in classes taught off campus by a professional.

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96	House	LIB	Quinn Eaker	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Creativity is what makes human potential so influential. It is love and passion that make life so interesting and fulfilling. From my perspective it is this that we ought to focus on. That which children and adults are actually passionate about. When one is passionate one is motivated and constantly improving. Standardized testing is the exact opposite of this. Everyone is treated like a robot and as though their only potential is robotic. I have much more to say of course but this is a direct and clear stance on this particular issue.
105	House	DEM	Susan Motley	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
105	House	REP	Rodney Anderson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	As a parent of two band students at South Grand Prairie High School, I am keenly aware of the benefits of all fine arts. My oldest is now a Sophomore at the University of North Texas where he started as a Music Major and has since changed to Biology with a Music Minor. I have been, and will continue to be, a strong advocate for our fine arts programs. I have arranged special meetings with current and former Fine Arts Department Directors in both Irving ISD and the Grand Prairie ISD to discuss their programs and to see "where I could help." In summary, you will find no stronger advocate than me for Fine Arts programs in this state, and I will gladly join the fine arts caucus if elected in November. GO TROMBONES!!!!
113	House	REP	Cindy Burkett	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Support	Yes	
115	House	LIB	Kim Kelley	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
115	House	REP	Matt Rinaldi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Need more info	
117	House	REP	Rick Galindo	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Thank you for the opportunity to take this questionnaire. Rick
121	House	LIB	Jeff Carruthers	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Support	Need more info	Yes	
123	House	GRN	Paul Ingmundson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Humanities and fine arts are essential elements of the school curriculum. I will do everything possible to support funding in these areas if I am elected to the Legislature
125	House	DEM	Justin Rodriguez	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
125	House	LIB	Daniel Behrman	Yes	Yes	Yes	Need more info	Need more info	Need more info	Yes	I think art is a great program, but should not be forced on any student who is uninterested. I am not a fan of the education system trying to make a one-size-fits-all anything. There are other programs which I believe would be just as effective in stimulation and growth of the mind, such as classes where games are played that require thought and strategy, or in computer programming, which I enjoyed myself. I do however feel that this should be the choice of the students and parents, not the choice of government. Instead of incorporating this into the curriculum, I would rather see incentives to create programs outside of schools which would incorporate these types of classes from non-profit organizations. This would not only give the students more choice of programs to participate in, but the ability to spend more time there, and providing incentive for instructors, leaders and mentors to do well in order to keep their organizations running.
126	House	LIB	Cris Hernandez	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Need more info	Oppose	Yes	
133	House	DEM	Laura Nicol	Need more info	Yes	Yes	Need more info	Support	Oppose	Yes	Choir taught me teamwork and acceptance of others despite socio-economic divides. That served me well on the job!
144	House	DEM	Mary Ann Perez	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Need more info	Yes	
146	House	DEM	Borris Miles	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Undecided	