

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 provides helps enhance college readiness?	Do you believe that creativity is a trait highly valued by employers?	Do you support the current policy that fine arts courses are 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:
4	House	REP	Lance Gooden	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Thank you for all you do. I'm a strong believer in your mission.
5	SBOE	REP	Ken Mercer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I can personally attest to the HUGE benefit of fine arts for college career preparedness!
5	SBOE	DEM	Rebecca Bell-Metereau	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	As someone who studied music, participated in band, and competed in piano and percussion UIL competitions as a student, I can attest to the value of music education. I support music and the arts 100%!
6	SBOE	DEM	Dakota Carter	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
6	SBOE	REP	Donna Bahorich	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	The fine arts are extremely vital to students. I am definitely an advocate of requiring the fine arts as part of a good educational experience for all our children.
9	SBOE	DEM	Amanda Rudolph	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	As a former theatre arts teacher, I believe that there is so much to gain by participating and appreciating the arts. As a member of the SBOE, I would be an advocate of arts programs for all Texas students.
9	SBOE	REP	Keven Ellis	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
10	SBOE	DEM	Judy Jennings	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Thank you for putting this survey together. Fine Arts is a very important part of a good education, as you point out, and I appreciate your interest in candidates' views.
10	SBOE	REP	Tom Maynard	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Fine arts in general, music in particular have play a significant role in my ability to serve my community. In my past I have invested about 17 years in music ministries at various churches. Additionally, my own children have benefitted from the fine arts components of Texas education. I look forward to having the opportunity to continue to serve the fine arts community on the State Board of Education.
11	House	DEM	Stephen J. Wright	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I am a middle school social studies teacher and have been in public education for 16 years. I am a former band participant (I still play the alto sax!) and have two kids in band and art in public schools. The benefits are great and I support all the TMEA and its members have done for our students!
11	House	REP	Travis Clardy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Thanks for your leadership, Robert!
13	House	DEM	Cecil R Webster	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
15	House	REP	Mark J. Keough	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Undecided	The Study of fine arts is essential for a balanced complete education.

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15	SBOE	REP	Marty Rowley	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Need more info	
19	Senate	DEM	Carlos Uresti	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I have supported Fine Arts education in our schools, just as I have encouraged participation by my own children. During budget cuts in 2011, many fine arts programs were the first to go. We can't allow that to repeat moving forward, especially in our rural districts, where there is most likely no community based alternative.
19	Senate	REP	Peter P. Flores	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I was in the band in Jr. High. I have two sisters and two brothers in law that are band directors.
20	Senate	REP	Velma Arellano	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
26	House	DEM	L. Sarah DeMerchant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
33	House	DEM	Karen Jacobs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Need more info	Yes	I believe in a well-rounded education and an environment that keeps our kids interested in school. Each child is different, each child needs an area where they can excel and realize their dreams.
47	House	REP	Paul Workman	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Support	Yes	
54	House	DEM	Sandra Blankenship	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Access to Music and other fine arts has been shown to enhance a students ability to learn.
55	House	REP	Hugh D. Shine	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Undecided	Oppose	Undecided	
61	House	REP	Phil King	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Undecided	Undecided	
64	House	REP	Lynn Stucky	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Undecided	
66	House	DEM	Gnanse Nelson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	My son grew up in arts & music both in and outside of school, band, piano, violin, percussion, guitar, choir, drama, art classes, etc. Those disciplines have served him well both academically and in personal fulfillment. When elected, I will work to ensure all TX students have access to the arts.
66	House	REP	Matt Shaheen	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Need more info	Need more info	
70	House	DEM	John Bryant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	My education in high school and college included significant amounts of fine arts education. This has enabled me to earn a more than adequate income throughout my life. I made sure that my kids also had that component to their education.

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71	House	DEM	Pierce LoPachin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Question #5 was worded a bit awkwardly, in my opinion. I chose to say that I support that Fine Arts are a part of the Core Curriculum because each public school should have a certain requirement for students to be active in some form of Fine Arts during their time in school. However, if I have misinterpreted this question please let me know. I am not in favor of STAAR testing Fine Arts. That's ridiculous. I want to end Standardized Tests all together.
71	House	REP	Stan Lambert	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Having served on the Abilene ISD Board of Trustees for 10 years (6 years as Chair), I am a strong proponent of fine arts included as part of our core curriculum.
85	House	REP	Phil Stephenson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Undecided	Yes	My answer to #6 is to get rid of STAAR testing! Of course music and fine arts are what we as humans do all of our lives. Why would we not want our public schools to teach the basics? They are lifelong tools.
92	House	DEM	Kim K Leach	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Yes	Undecided	Oppose	Need more info	
93	House	DEM	Nancy Bean	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
95	House	REP	Albert G. McDaniel	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	include ballroom dancing
98	House	DEM	Maricela Sanchez Chibli	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I played the flute in high school and took a lot of dance classes in college. I come from a family that plays piano or guitar. My daughter Marissa has a professional acoustic guitar single.

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102	House	DEM	Laura Irvin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I was a Texas All State Orchestra Oboist for three years in the 70s and my daughter was a Texas All State Violinist 4 years ago. I received my BM from Oberlin Conservatory and MM from SMU. I taught Montessori Preschool for 3.5 years. Currently, I am the Program Director for Texas Winds Musical Outreach - we perform in nursing homes, hospital and Head Start centers. This last year I programed over 1,500 concerts in Dallas and Fort Worth. Music makes a different - we use our instruments for healing. The neurologist, Oliver Sacks, said that when he performed autopsies on brains the only profession that he could recognize was that of a musician because the lobes of the brain were much better connected. The "better connection" allows musicians to multitask and problem solve better and faster than those people without the improved connection. Music expands the possibilities of success in all field of work because of its impact on the brain. We need expanded music curriculum in all of our schools. We owe it to our children.
105	House	REP	Rodney Anderson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	As the parent of 3 "band kids" I can't recommend fine arts enough. They work incredibly hard and I am a strong supporter of these programs.
105	House	DEM	Terry Meza	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
112	House	DEM	Jack Blackshear	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	The activities you mentioned were also courses during my school days. I believe they helped my become the person I am today. I drew from these activities and still remember them as a valuable learning tool.
113	House	REP	Cindy Burkett	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Need more info	Yes	
113	House	DEM	Rhett Andrews Bowers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to share my stance on the very important issue of the arts in education. I am a strong advocate of fine arts programs in our schools and appreciate the brain stimulation creative courses such as these provide our students, not to mention my own two children. Thank you for all you do!
115	House	REP	Matt Rinaldi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
126	House	DEM	Joy Dawson-Thomas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	My participation in choir in middle and high school taught me how to read music, which is a very valuable skill.

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126	House	REP	Kevin Roberts	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	I very much as a former debater in high school and college and one who founded a nationally recognized debate team-voluntarily taught and coach for a decade know first hand the importance of the role of fine arts in teaching important critical thinking, communication and interpersonal skills. I am a strong advocate and have testified before the SBOE as to the importance of keeping speech-debate and the fine arts as a part of the public education curriculum. Regards, Kevin Roberts
128	House	REP	Briscoe Cain	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Support	Need more info	Need more info	
133	House	REP	Jim Murphy	Undecided	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Support	Undecided	
134	House	REP	Sarah Davis	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
135	House	DEM	Jesse Ybanez	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Need more info	What does the fine arts caucus do?
136	House	DEM	Paul R. Gordon	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Need more info	Yes	I believe very much in what you all are doing. As a band member in high school and college, I found my playing in band enriched my life in so many areas to numerous to mention. Thank you!!
136	House	REP	Tony Dale	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Undecided	No	
137	House	DEM	Gene Wu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Undecided	Yes	
144	House	DEM	Mary Ann Perez	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
147	House	DEM	Garnet Coleman	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Undecided	
147	House	REP	Matt Murphy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Would like more information	Support	Oppose	Yes	I love fine arts as a part of the education process. I have a budding artist of my own in our 7 year old. I am proud of the creations that he has made and we encourage it. I am excited that his school puts an emphasis on fine arts. I feel it makes him are more well rounded student. It is a shame that we replace fine arts with test preparation. It hurts not only the students education, but the teachers ability to actually teach. I support any opportunity to implement more fine arts and physical exercise in schools.
148	House	DEM	Jessica Farrar	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	Yes	
149	House	REP	Bryan Chu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Oppose	No	Very much aware that Music and Art expands and opens areas of the mind that helps with memory, intellect, etc!

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150	House	DEM	Michael Shawn Kelly	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Support	Oppose	Yes	As much as I am a supporter of a rigorous fine arts curriculum, I do not believe most employers understand the importance of such education and the benefits it provides to increase the productivity of future employees. As a successful, award winning business owner, I do understand this concept. But I believe I am in the minority on this issue which is why I answered the question the way I did.
150	House	REP	Valoree Swanson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Support	Need more info	Yes	Fine arts education is extremely important for many reasons. Thank you for all you do to support it.