

District	Office	Party	Name	Studying music and other fine arts subjects helps improve student performance in other academic courses?	Student involvement in music and other fine arts subjects reduces the drop-out rate by keeping some at-risk students interested in school?	Music and other arts education courses are especially important now for supporting students' social and emotional needs?	Music and other fine arts instruction provides students with learning skills that enhance college preparedness?	Creativity and collaboration fostered by a fine arts education are traits highly valued by employers in building a 21st-century workforce?	Should students be removed from music and other fine arts courses for STAAR test preparation and remediation?	Would you be willing to become a member of such a caucus during the 87th session?	We welcome your comments. They will be published for our members to read.
2	House	DEM	Bill Brannon	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Growing up I remember much of our schools' investment in fine art education was dedicated to the GT program. I strongly believe though that fine arts education opportunities should be available to all students and plays a vital role in a well-rounded education that every student deserves. I will work to increase access to quality fine arts education and support all of our students and educators.
6	House	DEM	Julie Gobble	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I believe that a student's ability to learn music is directly correlated to their ability to succeed in math and science. Every student should be given that the opportunity to fulfill their desires in fine arts without repercussions.
10	House	LIB	Matt Savino	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	As a reading teacher, I can testify to the value our music courses added to all students' reading fluency and comprehension. As a parent to children in fine arts courses, I can speak volumes on the confidence boost their arts and music courses provided. These courses also allowed them to express their creativity and explore their potential in real-world scenarios. As a former student, I am grateful to my orchestra teachers for their patience and guidance. Not only did I fall in love with all forms of music I had never heard, but I also learned how to play songs that only a violin in school and a fiddle at home. I am grateful to my speech, debate, and theatre teachers for the courage and strength they saw in me and their determination to help me see it in myself. Fine arts are the well-rounding courses that all students need and the opportunity that every student deserves.
14	House	DEM	Janet Dudding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I believe exposure to creative arts enhance both academic performance and life experience.
17	House	DEM	Madeline Eden	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Want more info	No	Want more info	As a student growing up, I thoroughly enjoyed expressing myself through theater. I appreciate fine arts and encourage all individuals to pursue their dreams.
19	House	REP	James White	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Fine arts education is an exceptional tool for producing well rounded and talented students and improves the educational experience overall. Thank you for providing this questionnaire and promoting fine arts education in our schools.
24	House	DEM	Brian Rogers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Want more info	As a member of SBOE, I cannot be in a formal caucus, but I would like more information about the formation of the caucus, so that I can add my voice and encouragement for this move. I believe arts, music education are absolutely essential to a well-rounded education and I thoroughly support your efforts.
25	House	DEM	Patrick Henry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Music is vitally important for the development of the "whole" person. It is one of the first stimulus that babies respond to and it is one of the last stimuli that an Alzheimer's patient recognizes. The benefits are many from academic to emotional. All of my five children played instruments and sang in choirs. As a classical guitar instructor, I have watched students with many different disabilities, excel in this area and witnessed the improvement in self-esteem, confidence, and social acceptance. As an educator of students with autism, I know the benefits of music for these students. I have used music as a therapeutic tool for non-verbal students to learn to speak. Music uses parts of the brain that language cannot access, thus becoming a vehicle for language. Music is self-reinforcing and is the one elective that all students can enjoy, regardless of disability. I have a student who is blind and autistic, and he is on his high school dance team. The social benefits he and his parents experience when he performs is transformative! We MUST protect fine arts education. I will passionately advocate for fine arts.
25	House	REP	Cody Vasut	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Want more info	
26	House	DEM	Sarah DeMerchant	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	

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28	House	DEM	Eliz Markowitz	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I enjoyed band, marching band, and choir during high school, and my kids are enjoying art in school now. The arts develop different parts of the brain and complement other subjects.
29	House	REP	Ed Thompson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Thank you for all that you do to foster a love of the arts in our students. I have read many studies on the importance of arts education and its effect on students' performance in "core" subjects and on standardized tests. As a World Geography teacher, I spend time in every unit playing the music, showing the dance, and exploring the art of the countries that we are studying so students can more fully understand the interconnectedness of our world.
33	House	DEM	Andy Rose	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Undecided	
41	House	DEM	Bobby Guerra	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	My public education was improved due to Fine Arts from elementary through high school (choir, dance, show choir, theater, All State Choir, piano, pottery, and painting). Fine Arts provides the creative and expressive elements that grow a well-rounded student. Fine Arts taps into areas of the brain that traditional core subject areas may not, and our students deserve the opportunity to explore where Fine Arts may take them educationally, emotionally, and academically.
44	House	DEM	Robert Bohmfalk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I was a band student many years ago. My daughter was on dance team and my grandson is in the band. I know first hand how fine arts has affected my life. Colleges look for well-rounded students and those who participate in fine arts programs fit that criteria. I will represent you and the fine arts programs when I get to Austin.
44	House	LIB	Julian Mardock	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Undecided	No	Want more info	
45	House	DEM	Erin Zwiener	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your survey. As a disadvantaged youth, I grew up at Cal Farley's Boys Ranch. Like all the boys there, I had a circumstance and a story, but I also had great teachers who mentored us and instilled a belief in ourselves. An important part of that life-altering experience was experience in both band and choir. I was a percussionist and head drum major and had the opportunity to participate in the UTA Drum Major Camp under the tutelage of Bob Copeland and others. I was also involved in the Varsity Glee Club and the Boys Ranch Chapel Choir. (first, second tenor, baritone) I pursued a career in agricultural education, but along the way served in music ministry for about 17 years in small, rural churches. I usually worked as a volunteer, not earning monetary pay, but serving my church and community and facilitating worship and service. As one who trained students to compete at a high level in speaking competitions, I found that music education fostered greater competence in oral presentation. A great speech is truly like a great piece of music with different cadences and dynamics. I will continue to support fine arts education as a critical component of the Texas Public Education graduation plan. Fine arts education instilled confidence in me as a struggling youngster and has enriched my life and career since.
47	House	DEM	Vikki Goodwin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Yes	No	Undecided	I don't know if question 10 is applicable to candidates for Texas State Board of Education. I feel that students having a greater ownership over their education (i.e. more elective choices) leads to better educational and long term life outcomes.
47	House	LIB	Michael Clark	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
48	House	DEM	Donna Howard	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
50	House	DEM	Celia Israel	Want more info	Want more info	No	No	Undecided	No	Want more info	I'm a former music student and violist myself, and can say it was a wonderful experience for me. I do not think it necessarily helped me prepare for college or work life, however I am open to being persuaded that a fine arts education can do so for others.


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52	House	DEM	James Talarico	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	My public school fine arts education formed character. The pride in knowing that if you practice and work hard, you can achieve your goal developed a foundation that continues to serve me in good stead.
53	House	DEM	Joe Herrera	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Want more info	Yes	
61	House	LIB	J.K. Stephenson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I believe that the arts and music are so critical to academic achievement we must ensure we are beginning in Pre-K
64	House	DEM	Angela Brewer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Music is Gods voice .
65	House	DEM	Michelle Beckley	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
65	House	REP	Kronda Thimesch	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
66	House	DEM	Sharon Hirsch	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I am who I am because of art classes, band experience, speech meets and other fine arts opportunities that I had growing up. We need more arts in schools, not less.
67	House	DEM	Lorenzo Sanchez	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	In my 40 year career as an educator I have seen the erosion of fine arts in our public schools. As a legislator, I would love to reverse this trend.
73	House	DEM	Stephanie Phillips	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	My favorite memories of school are the experiences I had in band. Fine arts education is critical to bringing up well rounded and creative children.
74	House	DEM	Eddie Morales	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
78	House	REP	Jeffrey Lane	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	As an amateur musician myself (specializing in traditional son jarocho music of Veracruz, México) and as someone who benefitted from an arts education as a child, I know that music and the fine arts are indispensable to the holistic education of young people. Every school should have fully funded fine arts programming for all levels but especially a rigorous high school curriculum that will help students prepare not only for college but also for a future of lifelong learning, regardless of their chosen paths. Music education in particular is essential and helps develop many of the same skills that are necessary for success in non-music careers. If elected to the Texas Senate, I will be an advocate for students of all ages and will push for increased funding for music education and cultural and fine arts programming in schools and throughout the community. Texas has a rich musical heritage that spans time and cultures and our schools and cultural organizations should be bastions of that heritage as well. I would support state programs that strengthen traditional music and arts throughout the state.
84	House	DEM	John Gibson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	As a former band and theater student, I understand the importance of the arts and would support all fine arts initiatives that would lead to improved student success!
85	House	REP	Phil Stephenson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Want more info	
87	House	REP	Four Price	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Without the arts and music life is bland. Education in arts and music are equally as important as math, reading, language, literature, etc.
89	House	DEM	Sugar Ray Ash	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
90	House	DEM	Ramon Romero	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Want more info	Yes	
90	House	REP	Elva Camacho	Yes	Undecided	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Want more info	Want more info	

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92	House	GRN	Brody Mulligan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Want more info	I have conducted creative writing workshops for K-8 students in the schools and seen how eager our students are for more engagement with the arts. I'm an enthusiastic supporter of a well-rounded education for our kids, and the arts are an essential part of that.
96	House	DEM	Joe Drago	Yes	Undecided	No	Yes	No	No	Want more info	
97	House	DEM	Elizabeth Beck	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I'm a big supporter of arts education. My mother taught art when I was young and many of her paintings hang in my house now. While I did not inherit her talent in art, my kids did. One of my sons just completed a degree in architecture. My daughter is in her last semester of a Fine Arts program at the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts). Both of their educations were greatly enhanced by fine arts.
98	House	DEM	Debra Edmondson	Want more info	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Want more info	Serving on the Appropriations Committee, I have been a strong supporter of the Texas Commission for the Arts grant programs. I also passed a rider in 2015 that provided \$1 million to UT Austin to modernize the curriculum and teaching effectiveness in the Fine Arts, particularly for schools and communities that are underperforming in arts education.
100	House	DEM	Jasmine Crockett	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
103	House	REP	Jerry Fortenberry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
105	House	DEM	Terry Meza	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I strongly support Fine Arts Education and feel that the benefits of its impact on a student's overall education experience is under-valued. I would work towards protecting Fine Arts Education programs and work to expand those programs in rural community schools.
105	House	LIB	Bret Bolton	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	As a former public school teacher, having spent the majority of the previous decade in a public school classroom, I am painfully aware of the effects an over-emphasis on standardized testing has inflicted on Texan students. More than that, being the child of a high school band director, stepson of a band instrument repairman, and with family members all over the state continuing careers in musical education, I'm quite familiar with the extraordinary benefits offered by fine arts education. The coronavirus crisis has forced a long-overdue look at what we're doing with education, with our children, and revealed what many of us have long known: the STAAR test is not helping us, and the test-centric curriculum foisted on our students--at the expense of holistic educational experiences such as fine arts and other creative, expressive, social and cultural educational experiences--this emphasis on standardized testing is hurting our kids, and needs to stop.
106	House	DEM	Jennifer Skidonenko	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I applaud the Texas Music Educators Association for taking an active role in this year's elections. As we all know, policymakers in Austin often overlook input from educators while crafting education policy and budgets. As a teacher and mother of a preschool learner (and proud former member of the Denton High School marching band- the Pride of Bronco Country!), I am committed to writing education policy that honors meeting all of the needs of Texas students. I know that fine arts education is central to creating well-rounded students who find community in their schools and I am dedicated to making sure both time and money are available for fine arts education in K - 12th-grade public education. Participation from this organization's members is critical in ensuring fine arts education gets the attention it deserves in the next legislative session and I appreciate the opportunity to share my views with you all.
107	House	REP	Samuel Smith	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	

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109	House	REP	Dr Eugene Allen	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Yes	As a former school board trustee and parent of 4 children who all graduated from our Texas public schools, I have seen first hand how important a role fine arts plays in the education of our students.
112	House	DEM	Brandy Chambers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I'm the mother of a son who is making his living as an author and artist. His high school arts education was instrumental in his success. He is currently writing and illustrating science and history graphic novels for students in middle grades. I love how his excellent arts education is being shared with current and future students. Support the arts!
112	House	LIB	Shane Newsom	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Undecided	
118	House	DEM	Leo Pacheco	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	The classrooms, theaters, stages, art work rooms, and practice rooms are "home" to a great many more students than we realize. These spaces are a touchstone and a place of community and support for so many students. As a musician and a music educator I daily see deep learning, wonderful performances and all kinds of collaboration taking place but I also know that the orch/band/choir/theater room is where students come for lunch and for friendship and support of their creativity and their individuality. It is who we are as much as it is what we do. Fine arts education is fundamental and essential to our curriculum and to our school communities.
119	House	DEM	Elizabeth Campos	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Want more info	Yes	
119	House	GRN	Antonio Padron	No	Undecided	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Thank you for the questionnaire. I don't believe that studying arts helps much with the core curriculum, like math, science, etc. However, I do believe that teaching art and fostering creativity are necessary. Visual, audio and other forms of art are very important parts of life. I support your cause and hope we can have a balance between the core material and art.
119	House	LIB	Arthur Thomas IV	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I was first chair alto saxophone in band from middle school all the way through college. I wouldn't be where I am today were it not for the self discipline and drive that I learned in my musical studies. They also taught me to appreciate people from all backgrounds. From "Malegueña" to "Music for Prague," I learned to appreciate all manner of artistry. I wholeheartedly support arts education.
120	House	LIB	Shawn Huckabay	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
121	House	DEM	Celina Montoya	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
122	House	DEM	Claire Barnett	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Fine Arts and Music works the right side of the brain and keeps a well-needed balance.
126	House	REP	E. Sam Harless	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Electives are important to middle and high schoolers. Especially the fundamentals of civics. These all play a crucial role in guidance to each students success.
127	House	LIB	Nekolaos Antoniou	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Want more info	

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128	House	DEM	Mary Williams	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	As a professional musician and music educator and instructor that has had the privilege of teaching in Public Schools, and adjudicating ATSSB / TMEA events, and with experience working with a number of Music Educators in Texas, I am, as is my party, committed to funding music education and fine arts education, and supporting our educators. I know firsthand the burden standardized testing places upon our educators, and seek to put an end to standardized testing, allowing teachers to teach to the student - not to the test, and giving our educators the freedom in trusting their experience and conviction, to do what they were called to do in this life. Protecting the solvency of the Teacher's Retirement System, improving access to equitable retirement benefits and planning, and creating a more prosperous financial environment for music educators through better pay, fairer taxes, and increased workplace safety and job security are fundamental, key elements of my commitment to Texas Public School educators, and the as an advocate for labour and worker's rights, I will fight for legal protection affording Public School Teachers the right to have real collective bargaining and strong unions, including introducing legislation to change the law, allowing educators in Public Schools the right to strike and organize without fear of losing their livelihoods and retirement savings - and believe in providing legal protection for those who raise concerns of workplace safety. Furthermore, I believe in promoting a healthy work-life balance and will fight at the state level for legislative initiatives allowing fairer use of sick-pay and paid leave, such that COVID-19 quarantine and sick-leave do not affect earned and banked sick days / personal day. Additionally, working with all parties, I'll support, author, and promote legal provisions for family, personal, and mental wellness leave for allowance in use of paid time off. These initiatives not only benefit our students and existing educators but enhance the overall profession by helping the best and brightest educators find their home in a Texas Public School. From direct experience as a private instructor, I also understand the extreme hardship placed on educators who are independent contractors and will work to provide grants and assistance programs in the next legislative session for our private contractors and instructors, including tax rebate incentives and credits for those who are subject to sales and use or franchise tax. positive, lasting, life-changing effects that Fine Arts programs in Public Schools have on the lives of students, and in our communities, and am committed to ensuring that these opportunities are available for the many, not the few.... (contact us for extended comments)
129	House	DEM	Kayla Alix	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Fine Arts education is vital to the overall growth and development of students. We have a responsibility to help foster these talents and lessons in students that excel in them as well as those that find comfort and joy in the arts. Not only have these skills and talents shown to be helpful in a student's academic history, but also in their mental health and overall quality of life. I look forward to making sure that the students of District 96 and Texas always have access to to quality and well-funded Fine Arts programs.
130	House	DEM	Bryan Henry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
132	House	DEM	Gina Calanni	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	I believe the Staars Test should be eliminated as teachers are forced to teach to the test which is not necessarily beneficial to students. Also our students are each unique and we must provide individual students with opportunities in diverse areas of learning, especially fine arts all have opportunities to excel.
133	House	DEM	Sandra G Moore	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Want more info	

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133	House	LIB	James Harren	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	The fine arts provide learners with benefits like promoting self-esteem, creativity, emotional expression, and appreciation of diversity. With the upcoming state budget cuts I will fight to make sure that fine arts has its place in the state budget so that children and adults can communicate through artistic expression and I believe fine arts contributes to the civil health of our society.
134	House	REP	Sarah Davis	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Yes	
135	House	DEM	Jon Rosenthal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Although I've never thought of myself as being artistic, I still have had the opportunity to support the arts. In Abilene I served on the Fine Arts Museum Board at an important time in its development - when we acquired the vacant downtown hotel building as our new museum location. Later I served as the VP Program & Director of Scholarships for the Arlington Arts League, promoting arts and supporting students of the arts. I hope I can continue to support the arts in my latest role as a House Representative.
135	House	LIB	Paul Bilyeu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Music, art, and theater gave my oldest son a creative outlet that kept him balanced, and helped reduce his stress from the pressure of other classes. I, myself, was a dancer, and sang in the school choir every year until I graduated. Fine arts is vital to a well rounded education.
136	House	DEM	John Bucy III	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Want more info	
137	House	DEM	Gene Wu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
137	House	LIB	Lee Sharp	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
146	House	LIB	JJ Campbell	Yes	Yes	Yes	Want more info	Yes	No	Yes	I think any type of art helps everybody, not just kids. Get there brain going, thinking outside the box and in some ways express either thoughts or emotions.
148	House	DEM	Penny Morales Shaw	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	My grandson started to take piano lessons in the first grade and now at 11 years old he is playing classical piano. I am a true believer in the arts.
1	Senate	DEM	Audrey Spanko	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Want more info	No	Yes	
4	Senate	DEM	Jay Stittleburg	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Fine arts have helped mold the person I am today. I am a strong advocate for keeping fine arts well funded in school because we need to be teaching our children how to express themselves and how icons and legends in the past have been dissolving the boundaries set by society. Without fine arts and culture, the world would be so dull and lifeless. We need to encourage creativity because the fine arts help bridge the gaps for our world. Through art we can communicate, relate and live experiences we may never know existed thus granting us the creative freedom we seek as individuals. I benefited from my arts education through learning dance and music from my peers and If elected into office I would be a strong advocate for the fine arts because it is an integral piece to our public education.
4	Senate	LIB	Cameron Brock	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Want more info	Undecided	Undecided	I have absolutely no problem with the goals (from what I can see) of this organization. I think a well rounded education that includes fine arts is important for sure. As a Libertarian my position is about providing parental choices over their children's' educations more. I think blanket promises would be misplaced, but I would hope that a diversity of options would include more robust fine arts options and a spectrum of education opportunities.

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11	Senate	DEM	Susan Criss	Undecided	Undecided	Undecided	Undecided	Undecided	No	No	In principle, I favor the elimination of public education entirely so that education is in the hands of parents to be conducted in whatever way they think is best for their children. Fundamentally, the root problem you're running into is the problem of having a service provided by the state. When the government provides a service, everyone gets one option, and everyone has to fight over who wins to get that one option be what "they" want instead of what someone else wants. The beauty of the free market is that different people who want different things can "have" different things. A parent that values fine arts, music, drama, etc. as a part of their child's education can seek out a school or program that places a heavy emphasis on this, and a parent that doesn't can seek out something else. Most importantly, I think, is that this allows parents to select educational options that specifically suit the individual needs of their children. This is why I answered undecided on many of your questions. Frankly, I don't know the actual scientific literature on the value of fine arts education and how that might translate to competency in other disciplines, though intuitively, the value seems obvious to me. But I shouldn't have to know, because the government shouldn't be the one deciding for you whether your child gets the education that best fits their needs.
11	Senate	LIB	Jared Wissel	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I grew up right here in House District 121 with six brothers and sisters, cared for by a single mother who taught us the lessons of hard work and sacrifice. I remember going with her on the weekends to clean the homes of my classmates. It wasn't easy, but she did everything she could to make sure we had a fair shot at success. One of the best things about my neighborhood public school was our fine arts education. All of my siblings and I benefited from these programs, and I served in some of my first positions of leadership among the students in our Strings program. I met my future husband in my junior high orchestra class. My daughter is starting her first year of violin with a wonderful teacher who taught both myself and my husband. Music education allowed me to see beyond my circumstances and arguably changed my life for the better. This campaign is about making sure your family gets their fair shot, too. I would be the first Democrat, the first Latina, and the youngest person to ever represent this district.
19	Senate	REP	Peter Flores	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
21	Senate	REP	Frank Pomeroy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	My Wife and I are big supporters of the Arts. We have a museum in our area named after my mother-in-law The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts. Our son also graduated from the University of North Texas with a degree in Theater Tech, so the arts are very important to our family.
22	Senate	DEM	Robert Vick	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	I believe that fine arts, and other extracurricular activities, are extremely beneficial to the students that participate in them. However, these activities should not be subsidized by the state. Privatization of these fields would allow teachers to make a better living while granting students access to better programs with a wider variety of choices.
26	Senate	GRN	Julián Villarreal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I love Fine Arts. It was a very important part of my middle school and high school that kept me focused. Participating in the band is a benefit for social activities to meet friends. Being part of Fine Arts helped me discipline myself to become a better person and a better student. I love playing my clarinet and my  and I was also in Drama, I loved being someone else. Fine Arts is important.
1	State Board of Ed	DEM	Georgina Perez	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	

District	Office	Party	Name	Studying music and other fine arts subjects helps improve student performance in other academic courses?	Student involvement in music and other fine arts subjects reduces the drop-out rate by keeping some at-risk students interested in school?	Music and other arts education courses are especially important now for supporting students' social and emotional needs?	Music and other fine arts instruction provides students with learning skills that enhance college preparedness?	Creativity and collaboration fostered by a fine arts education are traits highly valued by employers in building a 21st-century workforce?	Should students be removed from music and other fine arts courses for STAAR test preparation and remediation?	Would you be willing to become a member of such a caucus during the 87th session?	We welcome your comments. They will be published for our members to read.
1	State Board of Ed	REP	Jennifer Ivey	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	As an educator myself, I have always supported the performing and fine arts programs on my campus in a cross-curricular manner. I have seen first-hand the significant impact that a fine arts education can have on students. Additionally, my mother-in-law is an elementary music teacher so I am personally invested in promoting, protecting, and honoring the mission of fine arts educators in the state of Texas.
5	State Board of Ed	DEM	Rebecca Bell-Metereau	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
5	State Board of Ed	REP	Lani Popp	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Yes	I was a former professional ballet dancer and spent the last 30 years as Body Conditioning Manager for Houston Ballet.
6	State Board of Ed	DEM	Michelle Palmer	Want more info	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Given my profession I already know the committees that I want to be on. However my son was in orchestra for 6 years and I think it helped him. The issue is that of learning to be a discerning thinker and to look beyond the superficial.
6	State Board of Ed	LIB	Whitney Bilyeu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
6	State Board of Ed	REP	Will Hickman	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Government should not be in the Education business. Privatize all government schools and each school can then decide the curriculum that best suits their customers (parents and children). If that includes fine arts, great. If not, parents and children would be free to shop for an education/school that provides those courses and curriculums.
8	State Board of Ed	LIB	Audra Berry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Want more info	No	Yes	As a STEM professional (Mechanical Engineer) who also plays piano and loves the arts, I'm happy to see the conversation about the importance of Fine Arts in education. I believe that incorporating the Arts in educations promotes development in other areas and I've seen some very cool research on interweaving arts and sciences teaching (STEAM) showing dramatic positive results.
8	State Board of Ed	REP	Audrey Young	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	I am a firm believer in the importance of fine arts education. As we develop our legislative agenda and prepare for the next legislative session I would welcome your ideas, concerns, and otherwise. Thank you!
9	State Board of Ed	DEM	Brenda Davis	Yes	Yes	Undecided	Yes	Undecided	Want more info	Want more info	Fine arts is one of the few places left where students are taught how to learn and not how to test. This is important.
10	State Board of Ed	DEM	Marsha Webster	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
10	State Board of Ed	LIB	Trip Seibold	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	I did band, choir, show choir, and musicals while in high school. While they may not have helped my career as a scientist they were integral in building my character as one who cares about community.
10	State Board of Ed	REP	Tom Maynard	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Want more info	No	Yes	As a mother of four college-educated young professionals, I made sure that my children had access to fine arts and actively participated in various fine arts studies. We personally experienced the value and advantages of fine arts studies. I firmly believe in the importance of fine arts preservation and inclusion in the academic curriculum.