



# Election 2016 School Board Candidate Survey Peoria Unified

<p><b>Monica Ceja Martinez</b></p>	<p><b>Contact Information</b> 7301 W Windrose Dr Peoria, AZ 85381 602-471-6294 electmonicacejamartinez@gmail.com</p>
<p>Do you have any personal experience (training and/or participation) in any of the following art forms?</p>	<p>Instrumental Music, Dance, Photography, Creative Writing, Other (please specify) Ceramics</p>
<p>In which arts activities have your children participated in school?</p>	<p>Music, Visual Arts, Other (please specify) Band</p>
<p>Are you aware that music and visual arts education are required in Arizona K–8 schools under the sections of the Arizona Administrative Code governing education?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Are you aware that Arizona has approved academic standards for the teaching of arts in K-12 schools?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Data from the Arizona Education Census, however, indicates that not all schools are providing the required instruction in music and visual arts, and 40% are not using “highly qualified” teachers in those two required areas. As a school board member, will you support and advocate for arts education taught to Arizona state standards in all of your district’s schools for all of your district’s students?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>The Every Student Succeeds Act, federal education law that replaced No Child Left Behind, defines arts and music as part of a “well-rounded” education on a par with other core academic subjects like mathematics, science, language... etc., as elements that contribute to overall student learning and performance.</p> <p>As member of the school board, will you support district-level policies that insure that your students are provided a “wellrounded” education including arts and music?</p>	<p>Yes</p>



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The Arizona Education census data from 2010 indicates that nearly 80% of Arizona schools spend less than \$1 per student on the materials and resources need to provide quality arts education in our schools.

How will you work to insure adequate dollars are budgeted to provide the tools and materials necessary to support standards-based arts education in the classroom?

Please take this opportunity to provide any additional comments about your views on arts education in our K-12 schools, or any other education issue you consider a priority as you seek a position on your district school board. (250-word limit)

I will educate the community, build partnerships with local organizations, and provide research to decision makers on the importance of funding art education.

As an experienced educator of over 10 years, students learn by nourishing critical thinking skills through arts integration.

Utilizing all their senses not only keeps the student engaged, but they learn to love the creative process.



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**Dr. Russell McConnell**

**Contact Information**

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Peoria, AZ 85345  
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Do you have any personal experience (training and/or participation) in any of the following art forms?

Visual Arts,  
Other (please specify)  
Graduate training in philosophical aesthetics

In which arts activities have your children participated in school?

Music, Visual Arts

Are you aware that music and visual arts education are required in Arizona K–8 schools under the sections of the Arizona Administrative Code governing education?

No

Are you aware that Arizona has approved academic standards for the teaching of arts in K-12 schools?

No

Data from the Arizona Education Census, however, indicates that not all schools are providing the required instruction in music and visual arts, and 40% are not using “highly qualified” teachers in those two required areas. As a school board member, will you support and advocate for arts education taught to Arizona state standards in all of your district’s schools for all of your district’s students?

Yes

Comments: only within the fiscal restraint of a budget

The Every Student Succeeds Act, federal education law that replaced No Child Left Behind, defines arts and music as part of a “well-rounded” education on a par with other core academic subjects like mathematics, science, language... etc., as elements that contribute to overall student learning and performance.

Yes

Comments: only within the fiscal restraint of a budget

As member of the school board, will you support district-level policies that insure that your students are provided a “wellrounded” education including arts and music?

The Arizona Education census data from 2010 indicates that nearly 80% of Arizona schools spend less than \$1 per student on the materials and resources need to provide quality arts education in our schools.

How will you work to insure adequate dollars are budgeted to provide the tools and materials necessary to support standards-based arts education in the classroom?

I am committed to the arts within the constraints of a budget. My first commitment is to the voters and tax payers.

In the immortal words of The Rolling Stones, "you can't always get what you want." As a fiscal conservative, I will always rank "wants" below "needs."

Please take this opportunity to provide any additional comments about your views on arts education in our K-12 schools, or any other education issue you consider a priority as you seek a position on your district school board. (250-word limit)

My oldest son was first trumpet, first chair in his junior state orchestra. We were excited for him and his siblings after him to continue the pursuit of music. Then they encountered a band teacher at [their elementary school] who could not reconcile their additional love for sports with their participation in band. I do not consider either sports or the arts having priority over traditional reading, writing, and math. I was very disappointed that this particular teacher forced my children to make a choice between the arts and sports. Don't worry, I have even more serious problems with the football program at [their high school]. Children should be allowed to find and pursue their passions either way. Fundamental academics are first priority when budget dollars are tight.

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