



## Election 2018 School Board Candidate Survey Tempe Elementary

# James J. Lemmon Tempe Elementary School District

Contact Information (602) 509-5012 jamesjlemmon@att.net

Which of the following art forms do you have personal experience (training and/or participation) in? (Check all that apply)		
<b>√</b>	Instrumental Music	
	Vocal Music	
	Visual Arts	
	Dance	
	Theatre	
	Photography	
	Creative Writing	
<b>√</b>	Film	

In which arts activities have your children participated in school? (Check all that apply)	
	Music
	Theatre
	Visual Arts
	Dance
<b>√</b>	l have no children.
	Other (please specify)

Until 2017, the Arizona Administrative Code required the teaching of music and visual arts in Arizona K-8 schools. Current policy now requires schools offer two of five artistic disciplines (music, theatre, dance, visual arts and media arts). According to the 2018 Arizona Arts Data Project (based on 2015-16 enrollment), under the previous requirement, only 65 percent of Arizona K-8 students had access to music and arts.

As a school board member, would you support a district policy that requires that all K-8 students in your district have access to at least two of the five disciplines, per the new state administrative code?

#### Yes

We have had music for all K-5 grade students and other various artistic disciplines such as visual arts and media arts for many years. We have band, orchestra, vocal music and a variety of the other artistic disciplines at all of our 6-8 grade middle schools. Participation in theater and dance programs are increasing at the middle schools.

As member of the school board, will you support district-level policies that insure your district schools properly report all data to the Arizona Department of Education about arts education course offerings and student enrollment so that equity and access to arts education can be evaluated and parents are aware of whether their children are receiving a quality arts education?

#### Yes

We always collect and report a wide variety of student data to the ADE, including information about arts education offerings.

Would you support a comprehensive district-wide assessment of the degree to which arts education is being offered in your schools, including enrollment, instructional minutes, teacher qualifications, resources and materials, and adequacy of student assessments?

#### Yes

We are always interested in what we do for our students and how we can do it better, however the district wide assessment needs to be respectful of the time and resources necessary to collect and aggregate the information.

If elected, will you promote a policy of including arts education stakeholders in the annual required district needs assessment with arts educators appropriately represented on planning teams, etc.?

### Yes

We have a number of Artists in Residence now and would hope to have them and the other arts educators on our various planning teams.

The state A-F Report card for K-8 schools does not currently give a school ANY credit for student achievement in arts education because students often are not evaluated by grades, or "satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory" measurements. If valid assessments existed, the State Board of Education likely would give credit for student achievement in arts, thereby creating a greater incentive for quality arts education.  As a member of the school board will you promote the adoption of a process to develop valid student assessments of achievement in arts education, based on the Arizona Arts Education Standards?
Yes We are working on updating our student report cards now but I am not sure how it may address the Arts Standards.
Currently, the 9-12 A-F school report card only gives credit for student achievement in AP Arts Classes (as part of the College and Career Ready point formula). However, Arizona's arts standards are sequential with increasing conceptual learning and proficiency to either the junior or senior level. Would you advocate the expansion of the College and Career Ready point formula to include credit for successful completion of study in an arts discipline (e.g., visual arts, theatre, music) to the senior level as is done for other academic and CTE courses?
l am a candidate in an elementary school district.

Arts Education advocates are working to develop a Fine Arts Seal similar to the Civics and Biliteracy Seals— to be affixed to the diplomas and noted in transcripts of graduating students with advanced achievement in high school Fine Arts.  If the state adopts the Fine Arts Seal, will you support the adoption of the seal in your school district?
if the state adopts the fine Arts Seal, will you support the adoption of the sealing your school district:
I am a candidate in a K-8 district only.
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.
Some of my most memorable times were in middle and high school band so many years ago. Learning how to march with the band playing in parades and at half-time came in very handy many years later when I was in the Army.