



Election 2018
School Board Candidate Survey
Phoenix Union High

Katie Gipson McLean
Phoenix Union High School District

Contact Information
1701 E. Meadowbrook Ave. #323
Phoenix, AZ 85016
(971) 266-9695
katie@votekgm.com

Which of the following art forms do you have personal experience (training and/or participation) in?
(Check all that apply)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Instrumental Music |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Vocal Music |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Visual Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Dance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Theatre |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Photography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Creative Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Film |

In which arts activities have your children participated in school? (Check all that apply)

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| | Music |
| | Theatre |
| | Visual Arts |
| | Dance |
| ✓ | I 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?

I am a candidate in a high school district

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 must hold ourselves accountable for the shortcomings that fall on our students. We can no longer allow our students, who are often already marginalized, to continued to receive inadequate/unequal education. As an elementary school student in Arizona in the 1990s I suffered when budget cuts took away my arts education and that still impacts me as an adult.

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

If we require arts teachers to attain the same education and licensure requirements as other subject area teachers then they should reap the same professional benefits.

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

Same answer as above.

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?

I am a candidate in a high school district.

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?

Yes

If foreign language and CTE courses have been afforded credit in the CCR point formula then arts education courses deserve the same.

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?

Yes

I would support this once assessments and standards have been flushed out to make sure that these seals would be distributed equitably across the state.

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.

I think that we should afford every opportunity possible to our students for them to receive a high quality and diverse arts education. Even if our students don't pursue careers in the arts we must recognize how beneficial arts education is to our students holistic education. We cannot continue to let arts education be the first thing on the chopping block when money is tight. We must find ways to keep arts education available and that will take some creativity at times-- but I know we can make it work. It is worth it.