



115 Pine Avenue STE 350  
Long Beach CA 90802



**Erick Miller**  
**Candidate for Long Beach**  
**Unified School District Board of Education**  
**District 2**

- Q. What will you do to ensure that every child has access to a complete education that includes the arts? What can you do to ensure all students have access to a complete education that includes arts?
- A. I will ensure all students have access to A-G curriculum which includes an art requirement. I will also ensure that there are enough credentialed art teachers at every school to make sure every student can receive an arts education.
- Q. What role do you think the arts can play in supporting key priorities of the district, such as reducing the dropout rate, closing the achievement gap, and preparing more students for college eligibility and/or meaningful careers?
- A. An arts education can help reduce the dropout rate, close the achievement gap, and prepare students for college/career after high school. I am a strong proponent in the belief that Art Equals Opportunity, as backed by the research program indicated by the California State University institution (<https://www.csusm.edu/artopp/about/index.html> ). Our students do better in school and after school when they are introduced to an effective arts education.



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- Q. In light of the new funding structure for school districts in the state (i.e. the Local Control Funding Formula), how do you see arts education aligning with the eight priority areas?
- A. Arts education aligns with the priority areas of Student Engagement, School Climate, and Student Achievement. An adequate arts program can improve attendance and graduation rates. Arts education can also reduce suspension/expulsion rates. And, arts education helps students become college and career ready.