

## Group 1 reading notes

Skimming of the text:

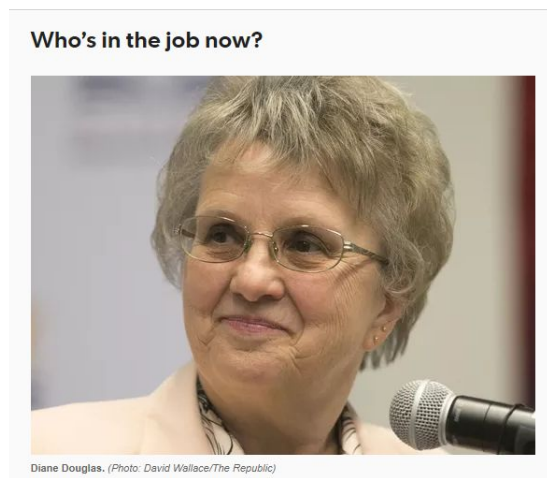
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Main arguments of the topic:

*"Republican incumbent Diane Douglas is a different candidate today than when she entered politics four years ago".*

Evidences/exemples that base the statement:

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*"That's because Douglas killed any chance she had of being an effective superintendent in her first six months on the job..."*

Evidences/exemples that base the statement:

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## Group 2 reading notes

Skimming of the text:

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### Who are the four Republican challengers?



**Bob Branch:** The university professor often says he is most qualified for the job because he teaches our teachers. But Branch is the most politically conservative and least politically connected of the GOP candidates. And that combination could make it difficult for him to sell reforms, such as breaking ties with the federal Department of Education, to a diverse swath of educators and lawmakers. In that case, he might not be much more effective than outsider Douglas has been in the job.

Main arguments of the topic:

*“And that combination could make it difficult for him to sell reforms, such as breaking ties with the federal Department of Education, to a diverse swath of educators and lawmakers”.*

Evidences/exemples that base the statement:

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## Group 3 reading notes

Skimming of the text:

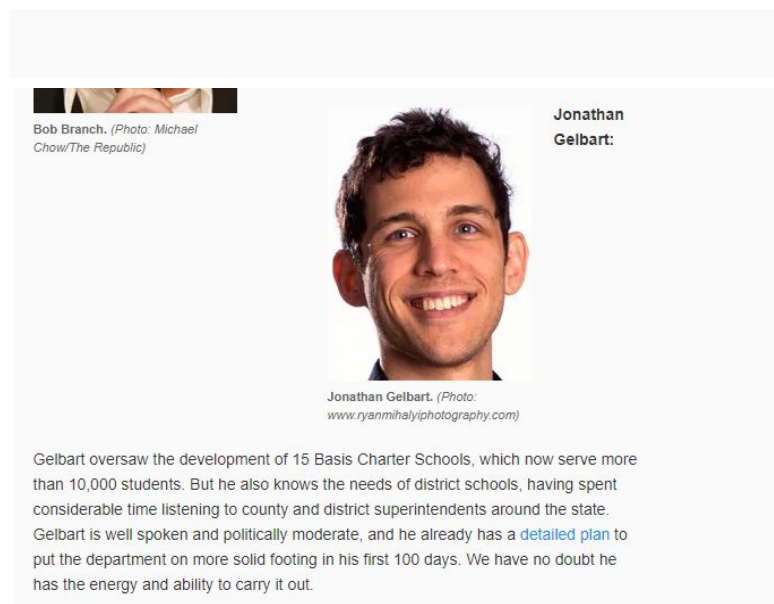
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Bob Branch. (Photo: Michael Chow/The Republic)

**Jonathan Gelbart:**

Jonathan Gelbart, (Photo: [www.ryanmihalyphotography.com](http://www.ryanmihalyphotography.com))

Gelbart oversaw the development of 15 Basis Charter Schools, which now serve more than 10,000 students. But he also knows the needs of district schools, having spent considerable time listening to county and district superintendents around the state. Gelbart is well spoken and politically moderate, and he already has a [detailed plan](#) to put the department on more solid footing in his first 100 days. We have no doubt he has the energy and ability to carry it out.

Main arguments of the topic:

*“Gelbart is well spoken and politically moderate”.*

Evidences/exemples that base the statement:

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*"We have no doubt he has the energy and ability to carry it out".*

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Evidences/exemples that base the statement:

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## Group 4 reading notes

Skimming of the text:

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**Tracy Livingston:** The community-college board member and former public-school teacher has a long list of conservative lawmakers' endorsements. But her assessment of what ails public schools is too narrow (we disagree that nixing AzMERIT is the biggest issue), and her grasp of high-level education policy is too thin (opponents corrected her on program names and other details in a meeting with *The Republic*). That makes us question how effective she would be at managing such a complex department.

Main arguments of the topic:

*"...her assessment of what ails public schools is too narrow."*

Evidences/exemples that base the statement:

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*"...her grasp of high-level education policy is too thin"*

Evidences/exemples that base the statement:

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### Group 5 reading notes

Skimming of the text:


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Tracy Livingston. (Photo: Courtesy of Tracy Livingston)



Frank Riggs. (Photo: Courtesy of Frank Riggs)

**Riggs:** Riggs, who ran unsuccessfully for governor in 2014, has the resume to be superintendent. He knows a lot about education policy, and he served on education-related subcommittees in Congress representing California in the 1990s, where he sponsored school-choice legislation. But it's hard to get a good read on how he'd govern, as he at times tailors his answers to what he thinks his audience wants to hear. He portrays a conservative hard-charger with some and a centrist bridge-builder with others.

Main arguments of the topic:

*“Riggs, who ran unsuccessfully for governor in 2014, has the resume to be superintendent”.*

Evidences/exemples that base the statement:

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*“But it’s hard to get a good read on how he’d govern, as he at times tailors his answers to what he thinks his audience wants to hear”.*

Evidences/exemples that base the statement:

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## Group 6 reading notes

Skimming of the text:

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### And the two Democrats?



Kathy Hoffman. (Photo: courtesy of Kathy Hoffman)

**Kathy Hoffman:** As a speech therapist and bilingual teacher, Hoffman brings admirable compassion for students, particularly those with special needs. She is well versed in education policy and was there on the front lines of the #RedforEd movement, making her a great advocate for rank-and-file teachers. But she lacks the administrative experience and the political savvy to compete with her opponent in the primary.

**MORE:** [Where the Democrats in this race differ](#)

Main arguments of the topic:



*"Hoffman brings admirable compassion for students, particularly those with special needs"*

Evidences/exemples that base the statement:

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*"...making her a great advocate for rank-and-file teachers".*

Evidences/exemples that base the statement:

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### **Group 7 reading notes**

Skimming of the text:

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**And the two Democrats?**

