

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS EDUCATION

The Board of Trustees believes that visual and performing arts are essential to a well-rounded educational program and should be an integral part of the course of study offered to students at all grade levels. The district's arts education program shall provide opportunities for creation, performance, and appreciation of the arts.

The Board shall adopt academic standards for dance, music, theatre, and visual arts that describe the skills, knowledge, and abilities that students shall be expected to possess at each grade level. The district's standards shall meet or exceed state standards for each of these disciplines.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a sequential curriculum for dance, music, theatre, and visual arts which is consistent with the state curriculum framework and includes the following strands:

1. Artistic perception: processing, analyzing, and responding to sensory information through the use of language and skills unique to each arts discipline
2. Creative expression: composing, arranging, and performing a work and using a variety of means to communicate meaning and intent in one's own original works
3. Historical and cultural context: understanding the historical contributions and cultural dimensions of an arts discipline
4. Aesthetic valuing: analyzing and critically assessing works of dance, music, theatre, and visual arts
5. Connections, relationships, and applications: connecting, comparing, and applying what is learned in one arts discipline to learning in the other arts, other subject areas, and careers

The Board shall adopt standards-based instructional materials for visual and performing arts in accordance with applicable law, Board policy, and administrative regulation, which may incorporate a variety of media and technologies.

As appropriate, the Superintendent or designee shall provide a standards-based professional development program designed to increase teachers' knowledge of and ability to teach the arts and to implement adopted instructional materials.

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage the integration of community arts resources into the educational program. Such resources may include opportunities for students to attend musical and theatrical performances, observe the works of accomplished artists, and work directly with artists-in-residence and volunteers. In addition, the Superintendent or designee may collaborate with community organizations to share resources and seek grant opportunities.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly evaluate the implementation of arts education at each grade level and report to the Board regarding its effectiveness in enabling students to meet academic standards.