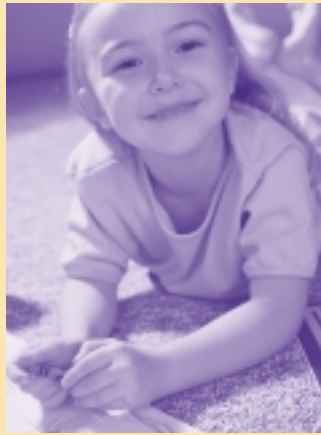


MODEL SCHOOL DISTRICT ARTS EDUCATION POLICY

The Board of Education recognizes that arts education, including dance, music, theater, and visual arts, is an integral part of basic education for all students. Arts education enables students to develop critical and creative thinking skills, initiative, discipline, and perceptual abilities that extend to all areas of life.



The Board of Education recognizes that a comprehensive curriculum includes sequential arts education as a part of the program for all students in all grades. The K-12 arts education program should enable students to achieve the goals outlined in the *Content Standards for California Public Schools*, which include the *Visual and Performing Arts Content Standards*. The Board encourages all teachers to use the arts to facilitate learning in the other subjects of the core curricula, including history, geography, language, math and science.

The Board recognizes that weekly instructional time, credentialed staff (arts teachers in dance, music, theater, and visual arts, general classroom teachers and an arts coordinator), community arts resources, facilities, supplies, and curriculum materials are all necessary to implement a quality arts program. Also fundamental to the success of arts education is a continuing program of standards based in-service for the staff, to improve their ability to deliver quality arts instruction across all curriculum areas and to maximize the opportunities for student achievement. The Board acknowledges that an appropriate ratio of students to credentialed arts teachers must be maintained in order to achieve the goal of sequential arts education.

The superintendent or designee shall develop a budgeted plan, establish procedures to implement Board policies, and provide for the on-going review, evaluation and development of the District's arts education program. As the arts are a core subject, in times of budget cutbacks, the Board maintains that reductions must be distributed equitably across subject areas, rather than eliminating any specific programs. The arts coordinator shall implement the K-12 arts

education program and provide a link between the central office policies and the school-level decisions.

Legal References:

EDUCATION CODE

8810-8820	Arts Education
8950-8951	California Summer School for the Arts
51210	Courses of Study, Grades 1 to 6
51220-51226	Courses of Study, Grades 7 to 12
58800-58804	Specialized Secondary Programs
60605.1	Program Provisions
99200-99204	Subject Matter Projects

References:

- California State Board Association Sample Board Policy 6142.6(a) (2/1998)
- Connecticut State Board of Education (Adopted 10/6/1999)
- Los Angeles Unified School District 10 Year Arts Education Plan (Resolved 6/1999)
- Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board Policy 4142.1 (Adopted 5/22/1997)
- Wiseburn School District Board Policy 6142.6 (Adopted 11/14/1995)