VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS EDUCATION

The Governing Board recognizes that by studying visual and performing arts, students develop critical and creative thinking skills, initiative, discipline and perceptual abilities that extend to all areas of life. The Board believes that a comprehensive arts education program, including music, visual arts, theater and dance, is an integral part of the core curriculum for students at all grade levels.

The District's comprehensive arts education program shall include a written, sequential curriculum in dance, music, theater and the visual arts. Students shall have the opportunity to continually improve artistic skills, create and/ or perform original works, acquire an appreciation of arts from many eras and cultures and develop an intellectual basis for making aesthetic judgments.

In addition, the superintendent or designee shall encourage the integration of community arts resources into the school program. Students shall have opportunities to attend musical and theatrical performances, observe the work of accomplished artists and work directly with visiting artists.

The board supports collaboration with community arts agencies through the Local Arts Education Partnership Program and is committed to providing the necessary time, staff and financial resources in order to fulfill the district's part in this school-community arts agency partnership.

The superintendent or designee shall appoint a local steering committee to work with the district on this program. This committee shall represent the ethnic and cultural composition of the district and provide a balance between the education and the arts communities. (Education Code 8813)

The board acknowledges the importance of ongoing professional development for teachers in arts education. The superintendent or designee shall ensure that certificated staff has opportunities to become knowledge about curriculum developments in the arts and strategies for delivering a comprehensive arts program to students.

In order to implement quality, standards-based, sequential and comprehensive arts education curriculum, with equity and access for all, the superintendent or designee shall ensure that the following is provided:

- Standards-based curriculum and assessment.
- Qualified teachers in all the arts disciplines at all grade levels, supported by ongoing standards-based professional development in the arts for the classroom and arts teachers.

- Instructional materials and resources, including, but not limited to equipment, facilities, textbooks and technologies that support standards-based learning.
- Opportunities for students to be exposed to a wide variety of artistic styles, venues, and performances including working with professional artists, collegial programs, cultural organizations, and field trips.
- Opportunities for students in elementary and middle grades to work with and gain exposure to the arts programs at the other K-8 and the high school through school visits, assemblies, workshops, mentoring programs and other such activities.
- Opportunities to showcase student learning/ work in a public forum simulating the experience of professional artists.
- Provision for ongoing review, program evaluation, and development of the District's Arts Education Program.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a budget plan, establish procedures to implement Board policies, and provide for the ongoing review, evaluation and development of the District's arts education program.

Legal Reference:	Education Code	
	8810-8820	Arts education
	8820-8830	Arts Work Visual and Performing Arts Education Program
	8950-8957	California summer school of the arts
	51204	Course of study designed for students' needs
	51225.3	Graduation requirements
	58800-58805	Specialized secondary programs
	99200-99205	Subject matter projects
Cross Reference:	1220	Citizen advisory committees
	4114	Staff development
	6000.1	Courses of study
	6000.2	High school graduation requirements
	6153	School – sponsored trips