

**ABC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Policy**

INSTRUCTION

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS EDUCATION

- A. The Board of Education recognizes that by studying visual and performing arts, including but not limited to dance, media, music, theater, and visual arts, students learn to develop initiative, discipline, perceptual abilities and critical and creative thinking skills that extend to all areas of life-long learning. The Board believes that a comprehensive sequential arts education program is an integral part of the basic education offered to students with equity and access for all.
- B. The Board of Education supports and encourages the following elements in developing and implementing the District's arts education:
 - 1. Standards-based arts curriculum, instruction, and assessment including:
 - a. Well-trained teachers in the arts
 - b. Arts taught as an independent subject, as well as infused within core curricula, including history, geography, language arts, math and science, whenever possible with regular and consistent instructional time.
 - c. Opportunities to showcase student learning and student work
 - 2. Arts education program which enables students to achieve the goals outlined in the *Contents Standards for California Public Schools*, which include the *Visual and Performing Arts Content Standards*.
 - 3. A ratio of students to arts teachers comparable to the ratio in other core areas.
 - 4. Integration of community arts resources into the school program including opportunities to attend visual and performing arts programs, observe the work of accomplished artists and work directly with visiting artists whenever possible.
- C. The Board of Education will support and ensure funding for high quality standards-based K-12 arts education in an equitable manner, consistent with the principle that arts education is an integral part of the core curriculum.
- D. The Superintendent or designee shall:
 - 1. Ensure a continuing program of standards-based professional development. This professional development may include the credentialed staff, paraprofessionals, community artists, parents and other persons who provide instruction in the arts to strengthen their ability to deliver quality arts instruction across all curricular areas.
 - 2. Ensure that students have access to sufficient instructional materials, equipment and facilities to support a balanced arts program; the program can be adapted to meet the unique needs of each school site.
 - 3. 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.