



**Ohio Alliance for Arts Education**

**Conditions that Support Arts Education - How Does Your District Rate?**

The following are conditions and practices that create and sustain district-wide commitment to high performing arts education programs for all students. These practices were identified in a research study conducted by the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities and the Arts Education Partnership, and published in *Gaining the Arts Advantage* in 1999.

Determine how your district rates from 0 to 26 in its support for high quality arts education programs, by rating your district on the following scale for each condition:

- 0 - does not meet the condition;
- 1 - somewhat meets the condition;
- 2 - meets the condition.

**Conditions that Support Arts Education:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1) Influential segments of the community shape and implement arts education policies and programs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2) The board of education sets a supportive policy framework and environment for the arts.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3) The superintendent articulates a vision for arts education.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4) The district has implemented a comprehensive arts education program aligned to Ohio’s arts standards.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5) There has been continuity in leadership to implement a comprehensive arts education program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6) An arts education coordinator facilitates district-wide programs and support for arts education.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7) School principals support district policies for arts education for all students.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8) Policies and practices support professional development for teachers of the arts.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9) District leaders develop relationships with parents and community to ensure support for arts education.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10) Strong elementary arts programs create a strong foundation for system-wide arts programs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11) Student needs in the arts are met through specialized programs (magnet schools, AP classes, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12) District leaders use national and state policies and programs to bolster local support for arts education.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13) The district promotes reflective practices at all levels to improve quality.

\_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL**

- 26 Excellent**
- 20-25 Effective**
- 15-24 Continuous Improvement**
- 10-14 Arts Academic Watch**
- 0-13 Arts Academic Emergency**

**How does your district rate? What can you do to be an Excellent district?**

- What leadership skills, policies, resources, and data are needed to improve arts education in your district?
- Will your board, superintendent, and administrators make arts education a priority?
- What strategies will you use to make arts education a priority in your district?

The following strategies may be helpful to improve the quality of the arts education programs in your district and school.

- Urge your local board of education to adopt Ohio’s Academic Content Standards for Fine Arts.
- Implement assessments in the arts aligned to standards in the arts.
- Develop performance indicators to measure student achievement in the arts.
- Include arts achievement on your school and district’s Local Report Card.
- Use the arts as a strategy to close the achievement gap among students.
- Work with parents, colleagues, and community to sustain support for the arts in your school and district.
- Involve state lawmakers and policy makers in the arts in your district.
- Make a personal commitment to advocate for the arts at the local, state, and national levels.