

Montana SAEYA Survey 2009

**Developed by
Bothell Assessment and Research Services in Collaboration With
the Western States Arts Federation**

Status of Arts Education

Dear Principals,

The Office of Public Instruction and the Montana Arts Council request your participation in a study to help establish important and missing baseline information in the area of arts education in Montana. This study will benefit schools by annually measuring arts education in Montana, providing you with consistent and credible data for your school. It will also illustrate where more tools and resources need to be provided and where the arts council could specifically target funding and resources to help your school.

One of the core subjects defined in NCLB is the arts. Because the arts are not tested annually, it is hard to assess the status of schools' arts education programs. The study we are conducting will be done annually for the next three years, and subsequently every third year thereafter. It will provide a snapshot to show you how your school compares to others, both statewide and regionally. The same study is being conducted concurrently in Idaho, Wyoming and Utah. The Western States Arts Federation has convened the state arts councils in these four states during the past two years to develop the parameters for this study. Schools participating in the study will receive the executive summary and full Montana report each year.

This is an important time to focus on arts education. Research suggests that arts education has a positive affect on emotional intelligence and that graduation rates increase in schools with more involvement in the arts, thereby producing a return on investment for arts education. While studies have shown the positive effects of arts education, there is an absence of consistent data within the field. This study will fill that gap. Thank you for your participation.

The survey can be found at the following web-link: (Principals please call Beck McLaughlin at the number below for the link.)

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Beck McLaughlin, Education Director at the Montana Arts Council, at 1-800-282-3092 or bemclaughlin@mt.gov.

Again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Denise Juneau, Superintendent of Schools, State of Montana
Arlynn Fishbaugh, Executive Director, Montana Arts Council

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To complete this survey, you may need the support of others, including arts teachers. The survey will not take long to complete if you gather the necessary information before completing the survey. To save time, we recommend that you print out the Word document version to gather the information you need prior to completing the survey online. You may also wish to keep a printed copy of the completed document for your records. After collecting the information, go to the web survey and enter your answers. If you are a principal over more than one school, you will need to repeat these procedures for each school you lead. Thank you for investing your time to make continuous improvement in arts education.

DEMOGRAPHICS

All responses should include data for the 2008-2009 school year unless otherwise specified.

1. School Name: _____

2. School Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

3. Principal's Name: _____

4. School District: _____

5. Email Address: _____

6. What grade levels are included at your school? *(Mark all that apply)*

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Pre-K | <input type="radio"/> 7 | <input type="radio"/> 9 |
| <input type="radio"/> K | <input type="radio"/> 8 | <input type="radio"/> 10 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1 | | <input type="radio"/> 11 |
| <input type="radio"/> 2 | | <input type="radio"/> 12 |
| <input type="radio"/> 3 | | |
| <input type="radio"/> 4 | | |
| <input type="radio"/> 5 | | |
| <input type="radio"/> 6 | | |

7. How many art specialists (FTE's, licensed, endorsed and certified with a college degree in the art form) are teaching at your school? _____

8. How many total FTE faculty are teaching at your school? _____

STUDENT LEARNING

The No Child Left Behind Law (NCLB) recognizes the arts as a core academic subject, alongside mathematics, language arts, science, and several other subjects. The following questions evaluate the arts standing as a core academic subject.

9. In this school, which art form(s) do students study that meet all of the following criteria:

- instruction that follows a sequential and ongoing arts curriculum;
- instruction that is aligned with state or national arts standards;
- instruction that is taught by a certified/licensed and endorsed specialist?

- Visual Art
- Dance
- Music
- Theatre
- None of the Above

10. What is the average number of minutes your students spend studying each art form each week?

<u>ART FORM</u>	<u>MINUTES PER WEEK</u>
Visual Art	_____
Dance	_____
Music	_____
Theatre	_____

11. Are the arts treated as core curriculum in your district?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

12. Are the arts included and clearly articulated in your school improvement plan?

- Yes
- No

13. Are you familiar with the content standards for the arts in your state?

- Yes
- No

14. How many students in total are participating in arts instruction (any art form: Visual Art, Dance, Music, Theatre) in your school this year? _____

15. How often do teachers integrate the arts with other subjects where the art form and the other discipline are taught and the standards of both are addressed?

- Frequently
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never

16. What would be most helpful to improve learning in the arts for your students? *Rank your top 5 by putting a number in front of your selections.*

- _____ Availability of arts curriculum standards
- _____ Availability of more arts supplies or equipment (for any arts discipline)
- _____ Availability of more curriculum materials (textbooks)
- _____ Certified specialist for teaching visual art
- _____ Certified specialist for teaching dance
- _____ Certified specialist for teaching music
- _____ Certified specialist for teaching theatre
- _____ Change in school board and/or administrative policies and procedures
- _____ District arts coordinator
- _____ Facilities and classroom space
- _____ Funding for community and state arts resources
- _____ More flexibility in scheduling
- _____ Planning time with other teachers
- _____ Professional development opportunities
- _____ Training for classroom teachers in arts education
- _____ Training on integrating the arts into other subjects

17. How is student progress in the visual & performing arts assessed in your school?
(*Check all that apply*)

- District developed and required assessments
- State developed and required assessments
- Teacher developed assessments
- No assessment

18. What kinds of co-curricular activities in the arts take place at your school?
(*Check all that apply*)

- Art club
- Band/Choir performances
- Literary magazine
- Music rehearsals
- Organized enrichment/remediation classes in the arts
- Theatre rehearsals/productions
- Other _____

19. What other arts education activities take place in your school? (*Check all that apply*)

- Visiting performing group
- Artists in residence
- Assemblies
- Field trips/museum tours
- Art Parents
- Integrated projects
- Poetry Out Loud
- Projects with outside arts organizations
- Special projects
- Other _____

20. What is your total student enrollment-across all grade levels-in the following?

School Year	Total School Enrollment	Total Student Enrollment in Visual Art	Total Student Enrollment in Dance	Total Student Enrollment in Music	Total Student Enrollment in Theatre
2006-2007					
2007-2008					
2008-2009					

If you are a secondary school:

21. What is the percentage of your seniors that graduate? _____ %
22. How many elective courses are offered at your school? _____
23. Of the elective courses offered, how many are arts electives? _____
24. What percentage of students are choosing to take arts as their electives? _____

TEACHERS

25. In terms of FTE's, how many of each type of arts teachers instruct in your school who are designated solely to instruction in the art form?

Art form	Highly qualified in your state according to NCLB	Classroom teacher with primary assignment as an arts teacher (elementary generalist)	Unlicensed "technician" with arts expertise (e.g., paraprofessional/prep-time specialists/eminence)	Parent or other volunteer with arts interest or experience	Artist
Visual Art					
Dance					
Music					
Theatre					

26. How many teachers in your school are working on arts endorsements or degrees? _____

27. Have you lost any FTE arts teacher positions over the last 2 years? How many?

Visual Art _____ Dance _____ Music _____ Theatre _____

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

28. What type of professional development activities in the arts has your staff participated in during the last year? How many participated?

	# of Arts Specialists	# of Other Teachers	# of Administrators
School Workshop			
District Workshop			
University/Community College Workshops			
National Conferences			
State Arts Council/Commission Workshops			
State Department of Education/Office of Public Instruction Workshops			
Instruction or Mentoring from Professional Artists			
Workshops Offered by Arts Organizations			
Other (please specify):			

29. Are you familiar with the teacher professional development activities in the arts offered by your state arts council/commission?

- Yes
 No

30. How do you receive information about arts education (Visual Art, Dance, Music, Theatre)?

- State Department of Education/Office of Public Instruction
- State Arts Council/Commission (including their listserv)
- Conferences
- District Arts or Curriculum Coordinators
- Listservs
- Professional Journals
- Other? _____

Please specify the listserv, conference or journal you refer to if possible:

31. What incentives may teachers in your school/district receive for participating in professional development activities in the arts? *(Check all that apply)*

- Release time
- Compensation
- Credits for professional development
- Credits toward Compensation (lane changes)
- Credits for recertification
- None

32. How many paid hours are devoted to collaboration among teachers in your school (e.g. professional learning communities)?

- Among arts specialists (Visual Arts, Music, Theatre, Dance) _____
- Arts specialists with teachers of other disciplines _____

SPACE AND RESOURCES

33. Which art form in your school has a designated room/space appropriately designed and equipped for teaching solely that art form?

- Visual Art Yes No
Dance Yes No
Music Yes No
Theatre Yes No

34. Does your school have theatre/performing space with appropriate lighting and sound, etc.?

- Yes No Unsure

35. Are you familiar with these offerings from the state Arts Council/Commission?

- Artists Residencies
- Grants
- Professional development
- Artist directories/rosters
- Technical assistance

36. Did your school receive money for arts education in the last year from any of the following other than the State Department of Education/Office of Public Instruction? (Mark All That Apply)

	None	\$1 -\$499	\$500-\$999	\$1,000 - \$4,999	\$5,000 - 9,999	\$10,000 - 14,999	>\$15,000
PTA/PTO							
Grants from the state arts council/commission							
Local arts councils							
Other grants							
Individual contributions (parents, grandparents)							
Businesses							
Foundations							
District							
Transfer of funds within school budget							
Fund raisers specifically for the arts							
Donations in kind							
State lottery							
Other							

37. If you did receive money that was used for arts education, please indicate where you distributed that money. (Mark All That Apply)

- Arts field trips
- Arts assemblies
- Arts materials, supplies, equipment, instruments
- Artists residencies
- Release time/collaborative learning time
- Professional development for teachers in the arts core
- To hire a full-time arts specialist
- To hire a part-time arts specialist
- Development of sequential arts curriculum
- School trust lands
- Other (please specify)

38. Does your school/district have multi-year partnerships/collaborations with artists/arts companies or cultural organizations that help meet your school/districts arts education goals?
- Yes
 - No

If yes - please list up to three of those artists/companies/organizations:

39. What is your greatest obstacle to utilizing arts education resources, such as artist in residence, arts projects? *Select all that apply.*
- Competing priorities (e.g., testing, remediation)
 - Time in the school day
 - Insufficient or inappropriate space/facilities
 - Budget constraints
 - Lack of information on available programs
 - No obstacles
 - Other? _____

40. If students have NOT traveled outside the building for an arts exhibition, performance or event what have been the barriers? *(Check all that apply)*
- Time out of school day
 - Transportation costs
 - Event/Activity entry fees
 - No barriers
 - Other? _____

41. Please provide any further comments you think will be helpful to our understanding of arts education in your school.