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Exciting Times for Music Advocacy in our Schools!

February 2014 - The State of California has made a fundamental change in how our school districts will be funded by shifting decision-making power to the local level, with community input not only encouraged, but required.

This is a great (and unprecedented) opportunity for music education advocates, boosters, parents and educators in California to make their voices heard in a very meaningful way at the local school district level.

Between March and June of this year, each of California's school districts must engage their parents and communities to formulate and adopt a Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).

This is a major game changer, one which we believe will have a lasting impact on funding for the arts in our fair state for years to come!

Here are links from the California State PTA and the CA Alliance for Arts Education with more info on how you can get involved and make a difference:



<http://www.capta.org/sections/programs/lcff-lcap.cfm>



<http://www.artsed411.org/LCFF>

This is a call to action! Please join us in actively advocating for music in our schools – for the sake of our students, the future of our communities and the health of our society.

Thank you!

Nick Rail
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INVEST IN ARTS EDUCATION TO HELP ALL STUDENTS SUCCEED

The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) offers a historic opportunity to invest in our children's future. Arts education aligns with LCFF goals and nurtures a set of unique skills and outcomes for students that help them succeed in school and in life.

Rosalie O'Connor

GOALS OF LCFF

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

SCHOOL CLIMATE

COMMON CORE STANDARDS

BROAD COURSE OF STUDY

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

PUPIL OUTCOMES

CREDENTIALLED TEACHERS

BENEFITS OF ARTS EDUCATION

Higher attendance rates and lower drop out rates ⁽¹⁾

Increases parent and community involvement ⁽²⁾

Decreases disciplinary problems and encourages positive student attitudes about their classroom ⁽²⁾

The arts have a central and essential role in achieving the finest aspects of the common core ⁽³⁾

Theater, dance, music and the visual arts are a valued part of a broad course of study, as set out in the state education code (51210, 51220)

Boosts test scores and achievement in literacy, math skills and ELA especially for English Language Learners and low-income students ⁽¹⁾

Increases graduation rates; fosters 21st Century work skills like creativity, critical thinking and collaboration ^(1, 2, 4)

Credentialed arts teachers enrich standards-based learning in classrooms ⁽²⁾

SOURCES:

(1) Preparing-Students-for-the-Next-America-FINAL.pdf

(2) Barry, N. H. (2010). Oklahoma A+ Schools: What the research tells us 2002-2007. Volume three, quantitative measures. Oklahoma A+ Schools/University of Central Oklahoma.

(3) Coleman, David (2012). Architect of Common Core Speaks. <http://artsintegration.com/portal/architect-of-common-core-speaks/>

(4) Catterall, J. S., Dumais, S. A., & Hampden-Thompson, G. (2012). The arts and achievement in at-risk youth: Findings from four longitudinal studies. Washington, DC: National Endowment for the Arts.