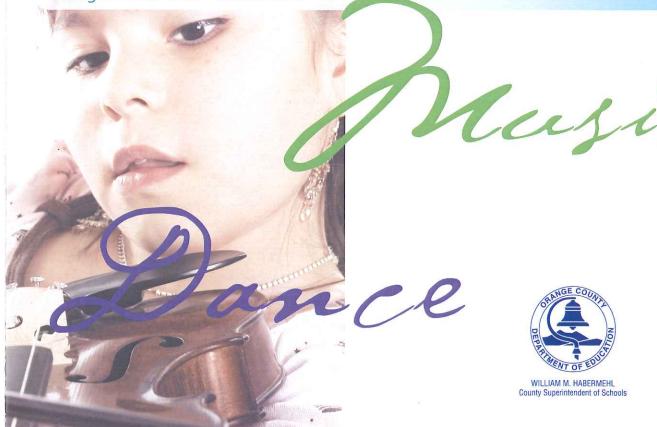




Strategic Plan for Arts Advantage

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2012 - 2017



VISION

It is imperative that every K-12 student in Orange County public schools is adept at the skills and processes of creative thinking in order to succeed in a rapidly changing world. It is widely recognized that these proficiencies are best instilled through arts education. Arts Advantage engages a broad coalition of stakeholders — school districts, teachers, parents, businesses, and nonprofit arts organizations — who are deeply committed to placing Orange County at the forefront of "leading creative communities" in the nation.

It is the goal of OCDE, as a major partner in Arts Advantage, to provide leadership, resources, and advocacy so that a comprehensive, sequential, standards-based arts education that includes dance, music, theatre and visual arts is available to all.

WHAT'S NEW

While many of this plan's goals and objectives build on the successes of the first five years (2006–2011), there are some new areas of focus, including:

- A more formal process for engaging Arts Advantage coalition partners;
- A deepened commitment to data collection and evaluation of student outcomes and professional development outcomes;
- An increased commitment to interdisciplinary education strategies;
- A focus on the long-term sustainability of Arts Advantage.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Convene Coalition of Stakeholders

The coalition of stakeholders—school districts, parents, nonprofit organizations, businesses and government—is more deeply and effectively engaged.

- Articulate the definition of "quality arts education."
- Coordinate communication of this definition and each stakeholder's role in attaining it.
- Establish a Steering Committee of representative stakeholders to assist with oversight of implementation.

Provide Planning and Implementation Services to Districts

Arts Advantage Districts strategically expand and implement their plans.

Assist 14 current active Arts Advantage districts to achieve their goals.

Inactive Arts Advantage districts re-engage in implementation of their plans.

Return two inactive districts to active participation.

Non-participating districts are encouraged to prepare for future Arts Advantage participation.

Assist three districts to build capacity for future participation.

Increase Professional Development Opportunities for Classroom Teachers

More teachers offer quality arts education to their students.

- Increase the number of elementary teachers receiving service by 20% countywide on an annual
- Increase the number of secondary teachers receiving service by 20% on an annual basis.
- Create additional series to expand choices of professional development offerings for elementary teachers who have completed discipline training.
- Train administrators to evaluate quality of arts programs and instruction.

More teachers make interdisciplinary connections in instruction.

- Add connections in each of the four developed Arts Advantage curricula to Common Core Standards and to STEAM initiatives.
- Include interdisciplinary connection ideas and models in arts specialists' trainings.
- Increase awareness of teachers in all subject areas of professional development opportunities in the arts.

Engage Arts Organizations in Supporting District Programs

Collaborations with nonprofit arts organizations are expanded.

- Engage three to seven arts organization partnerships to provide professional development to teachers.
- Engage three to seven arts organizations to coordinate student programs to align with a district's strategic plan.

Support Advocacy that Leads to Arts for all Students

Parents, teachers, and community have increased knowledge of the goals, benefits, and successes of arts education programs.

Assist districts to develop at least 4 contact points with their stakeholders each year.

Partnership with Arts Orange County and California Alliance for Arts Education to support the Advocacy Plans of the Local Advocacy Networks (LANS) is expanded and deepened.

Encourage district administrators to sit on each of the LANs.

Document the Impact of Arts Advantage on Students and Teachers

Benefits to students of arts education are demonstrated and quantified.

Identify an instrument to measure change among students receiving of arts education.

Benefits to teachers of professional development in arts education are demonstrated and quantified.

 Develop an instrument to measure change among teachers undergoing professional development.

Assure the Sustainability of Arts Advantage Programs at the County and in the Districts

OCDE's commitment to arts education is strengthened through institutionalization, funding, staffing, and visibility.

- Increase interdependence of Arts Advantage within OCDE Instructional Services Leadership Team.
- OCDE seeks staff to handle research and data collection and communications.
- Three additional businesses join the Arts Advantage Coalition.
- Scheduled strategic communications to all stakeholders and the public create a powerful group of advocates for Arts Advantage.
- Increase district's capacity to continue arts education through the training of incoming multiple subject teachers.

Division of Instructional Services

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