Diving Deeper: K-12 Education Policy

Moderator, Jeff Poulin, Americans for the Arts

Panelists:

Kathi R. Levin, National Art Education Association
Jim Palmarini, Educational Theatre Association
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The arts and music are included in a definition of a “Well-Rounded Education"

"WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION.-The term 'well-rounded education' means courses, activities, and programming in subjects such as English, reading or language arts, writing, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, geography, computer science, music, career and technical education, health, physical education, and any other subject, as determined by the State or local educational agency, with the purpose of providing all students access to an enriched curriculum and educational experience."
The presence of the arts in the Every Student Succeeds Act

Each state must submit a state plan that outlines the state’s standards, assessments and accountability systems and discuss how it will address inequities in the state, including in the arts.
A Well-Rounded Education

Opportunities for the arts in ESSA

• District Title I Plans
• Schoolwide Programs
• Targeted Assistance Schools
• Title II Grants
• 21st Century Community Learning Centers
• Title IV, Part A, Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants
Some ESSA plan examples

• 10 states include well-rounded education, including the arts, into their accountability systems
• 8 states identified professional development opportunities for music and arts teachers
• 12 states include music and the arts as eligible for funding and support through their 21st century learning centers
Thirty-six state ESSA plans address music and arts as part of a Title IV-funded, well-rounded education.
The Status of Arts Standards Adoption

In June, 2014 The National Coalition for Core Arts Standards released new voluntary grade-by-grade arts standards.

http://www.nationalartsstandards.org
American Alliance for Theatre and Education
Americans for the Arts
Educational Theatre Association
National Art Education Association
National Association for Music Education
National Dance Education Organization
State Education Agency Directors of Arts Education
NCCAS Media Arts Committee
Young Audiences
Rigorous grade-by-grade arts standards

➢ Articulate what students should know and know how to do in the arts as they progress through their K-12 education

➢ Nurture arts literacy through the 4 Artistic Processes of Create, Perform/Produce/Present, Respond, and Connect

➢ Promote the 21st Century skills of creating, communicating, critical thinking, and collaboration that help prepare students for academic, career, and life success.

➢ Serve as an advocacy resource for schools and communities seeking to define the value and purpose of a high quality education in the arts
The Status of Arts Standards Revision in the United States since 2014

A publication of the National Coalition for Core Arts Standards

March 2016

NATIONAL CORE ARTS STANDARDS
The numbers:

- 31 states and the Department of Defense have adopted revised arts standards in one or more disciplines; one state, New Hampshire, has adopted arts competences.
- 9 states are currently in the process of revising their arts standards
- 23 states have included standards for media arts
Getting involved in your state’s arts standards adoption process:

➢ Contact your state’s State Education Agency Director of Arts Education (SEADAE) to find out what the process and timeline is for arts standards revision

http://seadae.org

➢ Review the new NCCAS *Status of Arts Education Standards Revision* document in the resources section for FAQs, standards status, and resources about the authorization process
Fast Response Survey System

What is FRSS?
- FRSS was established in 1975 to collect issue-oriented data quickly and with minimum response burden. The FRSS contains surveys that collect and report data on education matters at the elementary and secondary levels.
- The FRSS collects data from state education agencies and national samples of other educational organizations and participants, including local education agencies, public and private elementary and secondary schools, elementary and secondary school teachers and principals, and public libraries and school libraries.

The Request
- The Department of Education should provide more timely updates on access to all arts education at multiple grade levels using such tools as FRSS. The latest FRSS in the arts was released in 2012, with the next one scheduled to be in the field in 2019.
- Funding of at least $4 million is needed for updating the FRSS and to include measurements in dance, media arts, theater, music, and visual arts in order to assess the condition of arts education.