ARTS IN THE ESEA

Conference Committee Priorities
Every Child Achieves Act (S.1177) -- Student Success Act (H.R. 5)

Title I

Several provisions here strengthen district and state policy related to proficiency in core academic subjects, which include the arts:

- Under state plans, the Senate bill allows state educational agencies to describe how they will “encourage the offering of a variety of well-rounded education experiences to students.”
  
  S. 1177: Page 78, Lines 18-20, Section 1111, State Plans

- Core academic subjects are included in instruction and enrichment activities associated with expanded learning time.
  
  S. 1177: Line 21, Page 154 – Line 4, Page 155, Section 1113, Eligible School Attendance Areas; Schoolwide Programs; Targeted Assistance Programs

- For English learners, the Senate bill requires local education agencies who receive certain to grants to conduct outreach to parents to share information on how they can be involved to help their children “achieve at high levels in core academic subjects.”
  
  S. 1177, Line 22, Page 441 – Line 2, Page 442, Section 1112, Local Educational Agency Plans

- Under schoolwide programs and targeted assistance, school plans must describe how their strategies will “address the needs of all children in the school, but particularly the needs of those at risk of not meeting the challenging State academic standards.” That description may include the “programs, activities, and courses in the core academic subjects.”
  
  S. 1177, Line 21, Page 147 – Line 22, Page 149, Section 1113, Eligible School Attendance Areas; Schoolwide Programs; Targeted Assistance Programs

- In the Targeted Assistance School Program, school plans must include a description of how the program will serve participating students including by using resources “such as support for programs, activities, and courses in core academic subjects to help participating children meet the challenging State academic standards.” These methods may include “expanded learning time, before- and after-school programs, and summer programs and opportunities.”
  
  S. 1177, Page 153 – Page 4, Page 155, Section 1113, Eligible School Attendance Areas; Schoolwide Programs; Targeted Assistance Programs

Title II

Key provisions here support teacher training and improved student learning:

- The Senate bill notes that the purpose of the entirety of Section II is to improve student academic performance. It does that “by increasing the ability of local educational agencies, schools, teachers, principals, and other school leaders to provide a well-rounded and complete education for all students.”
  
  S. 1177, Page 313, Lines 7-12, Section 2001, Purpose
The House bill includes **arts educators as eligible for professional development support.**

H.R. 5, Page 247, Lines 12-20

**Title IV**

Several provisions here are geared towards “safe and healthy students,” including continued authorization for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers. This program supports afterschool, out-of-school programs and expanded learning time in schools, and serves over 1.6 million children:

- **“Core academic subject education activities”** are eligible activities for grant funds.
  
  S. 1177, Page 533, Lines 8-22, Section 4205, Local Activities

- **“Well-rounded” education is authorized under local educational agency activities.** This section of the Senate bill characterizes the arts as “tools to promote constructive student engagement, problem solving, and conflict resolution,” recognizing that the arts bring a host of beneficial outcomes to student learning.
  
  S. 1177, Page 500, lines 1-6, Section 4105, Local Educational Agency Authorized Activities

- The Senate bill **continues authorization for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers.**
  
  S. 1177, Line 1, Page 509 – Line 6, Page 533, Section 4003, 21st Century Community Learning Centers

**Title V**

Key authorization is included under this innovation section to promote arts education for disadvantaged students, including professional development for arts teachers, development and dissemination of arts-based educational programming in multiple arts disciplines, and national outreach activities that strengthen partnerships among local education agencies, communities, and national centers for the arts:

- The Senate bill authorizes a **literacy and arts education program.**
  
  S. 1177, Line 8, Page 676 – Line 4, Page 679. Section 5009, Literacy and Arts Education

**Title VII**

Under the Native American education section, additional benefits of arts learning are cited, including its impact on graduation rates, especially in communities where drop-out rates are elevated:

- **The arts are listed as an activity that increase graduation rates** and assist students to be prepared for postsecondary education or the workforce.
  
  S. 1177, Page 829, Lines 1-21, Section 7304, Program Authorized

**Title IX**

A top priority, this section of definitions retains the arts as a core academic subject:

- **The arts are a core academic subject.**
  
  S. 1177, Page 883, Lines 6-14, Section 9101, Definitions