



*A shared vision for a high quality education  
for every child, in every school, every day.*

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## Why the Arts?

The arts are a critical part of a high quality education for every child, in every school, every day because...

### ***It's right!***

- Every child should have the same access to arts—not just the lucky and the few.
- Every child has the right to find and develop his or her unique voice and use it to express his or her self in our democratic society.
- Every child has the right to hope! In order to hope, every child needs to be able to use their imagination skills to envision a future different from what they see around them.

### ***It works!***

- The arts meet every child at their own learning level and challenge them through discovery and possibility to realize their potential.
- The arts provide multiple entry points and opportunities for students to learn in the ways they learn best.
- The arts make learning visible. The arts help teachers, parents and students question, understand, and respond in meaningful ways.

### ***It's common sense!***

- Understanding is developed through learning by doing. The arts provide concrete, experiential ways to engage with all subject areas.
- Our world today is changing so quickly that information is constantly outdated. Success is based less on what you know and more on how well you can learn and apply what you need to know. The arts teach kids how to use their knowledge in new and novel situations.
- We will hand off to our youth challenges that we have not been able to solve ourselves such as national debt, global warming, and terrorism. It is only fair that we give them the creative thinking skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, and teamwork that they will need to tackle them. The arts help students to develop these important thinking dispositions for life-long success.