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Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

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BULLETIN NO. 047-22 EDUCATOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents
School District Business Managers
District Human Resource Directors

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: New Educator Endorsement Requirements for Visual and Performing Arts Instruction

CONTACT: Cindy Rockholt, Assistant Superintendent, Educator Growth and Development
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PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

[Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5878](#) adds visual and performing arts to the list of common school instruction through [RCW 28A.230.020](#). Additionally, new endorsement requirements for educators teaching the arts, and new requirements for arts course offerings for students in elementary, middle, and for grades 9 through 12 are required beginning in school year 2023–24. This bulletin outlines the requirements to assist Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in implementation so that all Washington students receive formal instruction in the core disciplines of visual or performing arts throughout their K–12 experience.

This guidance outlines the minimum requirements. LEAs with practices that exceed these minimum requirements are encouraged to continue to provide robust arts education for all students.

LEA Implementation

The following outlines requirements for LEAs, charter schools, and state-tribal education compact schools with more than 200 enrolled students beginning in the 2023–24 school year.

Arts Instruction

Instruction in this curriculum must utilize the associated arts standards, and the learning experiences must be for the purpose of advancing knowledge and skill development in the

visual or performing arts discipline. Additionally, if schools wish to integrate or infuse the arts into other subject matters, they may do so, however, this must be in addition to formal arts instruction and coursework solely for the skill and knowledge development in the arts.

Arts Coursework

LEAs must offer at least one visual art or at least one performing art coursework during the school day throughout the year for all K–12 students. After school or extracurricular arts activities may take place in addition to the requirements in ESSB 5878.

K–8: Each student must receive instruction in at least one arts discipline throughout their elementary and middle school education experience. Each school year students must receive instruction in at least one visual art or one performing art course for an entire term, but not necessarily for each term during the school year.

An artist working in the classroom may meet the requirements if the hours of instruction are at least the same numbers of instructional hours equivalent to a 'traditional' arts course over one term. The artist must work in the classroom with a teacher who meets the endorsement and certificate requirements of that course.

9–12: For grades nine through 12, all students must be given the opportunity to take arts coursework each academic year.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Arts Coursework

LEAs may continue to provide arts credit through Career and Technical Education (CTE) coursework and should ensure instructors are certified with the appropriate vocational code (V-code) to teach the course. CTE course equivalencies do not yet have art courses listed. The anticipated date art courses will be added is by January 2023. Until that time, CTE art courses will be transcribed as academic course credit following the existing equivalency policy.

Art courses are those in which instruction in this curriculum utilizes the associated arts standards, and the learning experiences must be for the purpose of advancing knowledge and skill development in the visual or performing arts discipline.

CTE courses determined by a local equivalency for art under district policy are considered arts courses. All approved middle school CTE courses (grades 7 and up) must be identified STEM courses and are also subject to district policy regarding local equivalency. Statewide CTE State Equivalencies created for high school are currently being revised and may be found on the OSPI website January 2023.

Certification Requirements

Arts instruction must be provided by either a fully certificated teacher with the proper endorsement aligned to the arts course to which they are assigned, or a fully certificated teacher

actively pursuing an endorsement in the relevant arts discipline to which they are assigned. For example, an elementary (K–8) endorsement is a ‘proper endorsement’ for educators teaching K–8 students.

Arts courses requiring First Peoples’ Language, Culture and Oral Traditions Certificate: The designated 18 First Peoples’ arts courses must be taught by educators holding a valid First Peoples’ Language, Culture, and Oral Tribal Traditions Certificate ([WAC 181-78A-700](#)). These 18 courses (WA0010 through WA0027) will be added to the CEDARS course code list for the 2022–2023 school year. These courses will be added to the Professional Educators Standards Board’s assignment table.

Limited Certificates: An individual with a limited certificate may provide arts instruction while the LEA actively recruits and hires a fully certificated teacher with the proper endorsement for the arts course.

Additionally, a person with a limited certificate may provide arts instruction in the place of a fully certificated and properly endorsed teacher during the time the teacher takes leave as provided in the LEA’s written leave policy.

Art Endorsement Requirements

In order to prioritize student access to appropriately credentialed educators, the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) created an [assignment policy](#) to match teacher endorsements with courses, and match certificates with educator roles. LEAs should use PESB’s out-of-endorsement policy ([WAC 181-82-110](#)), for any teacher assigned to teach outside of their endorsement area.

Required LEA and Subject Matter Expert Consultation

LEAs must consult with subject matter experts to determine which visual and performing arts courses will be offered at each grade level. This consultation will support implementation of arts standards and alignment with student developmental stages. Additionally, the consultation will provide arts-focused students opportunities for success in an arts college or career pathway.

Comprehensive Education Data and Research System (CEDARS) Reporting

LEAs should continue to follow the direction of CEDARS data collection manual and CEDARS reporting guidance. There are currently no new reporting requirements set forth in ESSB 5878.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Cindy Rockholt, Assistant Superintendent, Educator Growth and Development, at 360-725-4991 or email cindy.rockholt@k12.wa.us. The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

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This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](#) page of the OSPI website.

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