

“**Arts education is crucial at every level—classroom, school district and county-wide. We know that involvement in the arts helps students increase test scores and promotes academic achievement.**”

— Paul Tichinin,
Mendocino County
Superintendent of Schools.



Are our children prepared for work and life in the **Age of Creativity?**



Arts education helps prepare students to be innovators in the 21st century.

A recent Harris Poll shows that a resounding 93% of Americans consider the arts to be vital to providing a well-rounded education for children and are a critical link to learning and success. Extensive research has demonstrated that teaching the arts engages students deeply in classroom learning, contributes to higher achievement in every subject area, and reduces truancy and dropout rates.

The Role of Arts Education in Common Core

The new Common Core State Standards are being implemented throughout Mendocino County Schools. The Common Core Standards emphasize the need to develop students' creativity, critical thinking, communication, and collaboration skills to engage them in a meaningful education and to prepare them for the 21st century workforce.

Is the Local Control Funding Formula a historic opportunity for our schools?

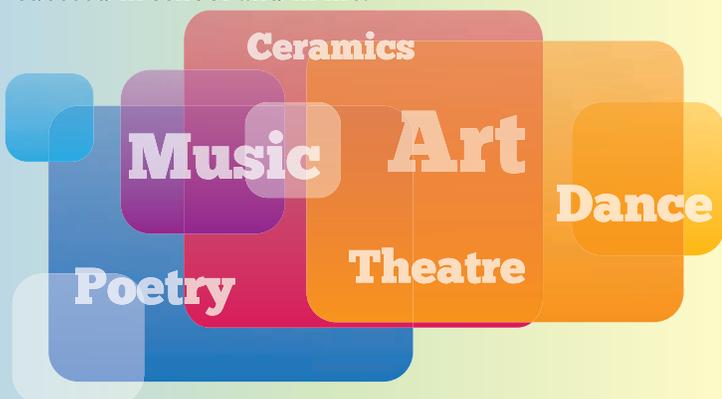
The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) offers a historic opportunity to invest in our children's future. Arts education aligns with LCFF goals and nurtures a set of unique skills and outcomes for students that help them succeed in school and in life.

“**Creativity now is as important in education as literacy, and we should treat it with the same status.**”

— Sir Ken Robinson,
English author, speaker, and
international adviser on
education and the arts to
government, non-profits, and
educational institutions.

“**The Common Core recognizes the capacity of the arts to develop these skills effectively across the school curriculum, particularly in reading and writing. Sequential education in the arts encourages in-depth observation and inquiry, complex and innovative thinking, and sustained engagement in learning.**”

— David Coleman, Common Core ELA Advisor



Who are we and what are we asking for?



Founded in 2013, the Mendocino County Alliance for Arts Education (MCAAE) is a county-wide network of individuals, comprised of community members, educators, parents, and artists representing educational institutions, local organizations and businesses and the broader community.

The Mendocino County Alliance for Arts Education advocates for arts education for all students in every school community in Mendocino County. Strengthening the active partnership between the art community and our local schools is essential in providing our students the creative lens of learning.

We believe that all students should have access to in-school and community arts learning opportunities, which enhance standards-based education in our Mendocino County Schools.

Our request to the School Boards of Mendocino County is to allocate funding to improve our arts education offerings.

WE ENVISION

- The allocation of a percentage of the budget for arts education
- The creation & implementation of a long term, strategic county wide arts education plan
- The professional training of all teachers (TK-12) to teach the arts in the classroom
- The reinstatement of dedicated visual and performing arts teachers in schools
- Equal access to arts education opportunities for all students of our County

It is time
for all of us to
ignite
the full potential of
every student of
our County.

For more information

[www.artsmendocino.org/Programs/
MendocinoCountyAllianceforArtsEducation](http://www.artsmendocino.org/Programs/MendocinoCountyAllianceforArtsEducation)



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