

LAKE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

TO TEACH. TO SERVE. TO LEARN.

2025 2030

STRATEGIC ARTS EDUCATION PLAN

The arts are a necessary and required component for all California students to develop as well-rounded, lifelong learners who contribute to the prosperity and quality of life for local and global communities.

An education in the arts (dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts) develops engaged, creative, expressive, responsive, and artistically literate citizens. Artistic literacy is the ability to understand, create, perform/present/produce, respond, and connect through the arts, and transfer knowledge and skills learned from authentic experiences in the arts that transcend historical, cultural, and societal contexts.

Achieving literacy in the arts is joyful, inspirational, and creates a lifelong appreciation of the arts; it also prepares students for the twenty-first century workforce and plays a critical role in developing well-rounded individuals.

A standards-based arts education in all five disciplines with equitable arts learning experiences available to all students furthers students' academic goals, increases student engagement, enhances parent and community engagement, and improves school culture and climate.

Excerpted from: *The California Arts Education Framework for California Public Schools: Transitional Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve , Chapter 1. 2020*



"Strategic arts plans outline goals, priorities, and benchmarks related to providing greater student access to arts education. Developing a strategic arts plan can lead to new funding opportunities, aid in decision-making, and serve as a model or resource for district arts planning...

Organizing COE efforts around a strategic arts plan builds internal capacity for increasing arts opportunities and may also provide a model for districts to learn from and follow."

The Role of California's County Offices of Education and Implications for Arts Education, SRI, 2022.

A Message from Lake County Superintendent of Schools



Arts education helps students connect with their emotions, their peers, and their learning in ways that foster both academic success and personal growth. As we deepen our understanding of how students learn, it's clear that learning is a cognitive process shaped by emotional, social, and cultural factors.

Arts in education open doors to new opportunities and offer students diverse ways to learn and thrive in Lake County schools. By engaging students creatively, the arts support engagement, boost achievement, and help young people grow into emotionally healthy, socially aware, and productive adults.

Creativity flourishes where opportunity exists. Our strategic plan builds the foundation for every student to explore, create, and excel.

This plan reflects Lake County's commitment to growth, opportunity, and the creative potential in every student. Together, we are building a future where the arts are not a luxury, they are a foundation.

Brock Falkenberg,
Lake County Superintendent of Schools







Strategic Arts Education Planning in Lake County

Beginning in January, 2025 Lake County Office of Education Learning Support Specialist, VAPA Lead Kim Tyler invited a diverse team to represent the three populations directly served by the County Office:

1. Clearlake Creativity School
2. Lloyd P. Hance Community School
3. LCOE State Preschool Programs (CSPP)

The Strategic Arts Planning team was composed of LCOE staff and community members:



Aaron Carter	Senior Director Teaching and Learning, Lake County Office of Education
Barbara Clark	Executive Director & Teaching Artist, Lake County Arts Council
Sunny Dawn	Child Development Director, Early Connections Preschool, Lake County Office of Education
Angie De Maria	Principal, Lloyd P. Hance, Lake County Office of Education
Shane Lee	Principal, Clearlake Creativity School, Lake County Office of Education
Jeremy Moreno	Counselor, Lloyd P. Hance, Lake County Office of Education
Kim Tyler	Learning Support Specialist, VAPA Lead, Lake County Office of Education
Rob Young	Director of Operations, Lake County Office of Education
Peggy Burt	Arts Planning Coach, CA County Superintendents Arts Initiative

Lake County Office of Education Schools

Lloyd P. Hance Community School provides an alternative learning environment for middle and high school students (grades 7-12) who are experiencing difficulties in a traditional school setting or who are exhibiting negative behavior patterns in school or in the community. The program serves students who have been expelled from school, identified as habitually truant by a Student Attendance Review Board, placed on probation by the court, or otherwise referred by a school district, probation, or social service agency. The emphasis of the program is to reestablish the educational direction of students and to transition them to a regular school setting or other learning environment that meets their needs. Counseling and other support services are provided by public and community agencies. Serving approximately 20 students.

The Clearlake Creativity School (CCS) provides educational opportunities for students K-12, who have a current Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and who have met the referral criteria for admission. The Clearlake Creativity School provides academic, behavioral and emotional support to students who attend this specialized program.

Ultimately, our vision for the Creativity School is for students to gain the skills they need to make positive, healthy choices and successfully return to their home school with a renewed love of learning. Our behavioral program is that of Diana Browning Wright, which has been implemented successfully for Lake County students.

The goal of our program is to work collaboratively with students, their families, and community agencies to provide a safe and supportive place for our students to experience success. We are dedicated to the relentless pursuit of whatever it takes to make a difference in the lives of our students and their families. Serving approximately 20 students.

LCOE State Preschool Programs

LCOE has State Preschool programs at 6 elementary schools with part-time and full-time programs throughout the county. Additionally, LCOE will have its own Clearlake Preschool site as of 2025/2026 to serve the Clearlake area. State Preschool programs are free to income qualified families. Children receive breakfast or a lunch/snack daily. Our programs integrate literacy, math, art, science, sensory exploration, imaginative play, and physical activity so that your child receives the optimal balanced learning experience. Serving approximately 220-250 students per year.

Why the Arts?

The role that arts education plays in the school day has evolved over time, from being a subject with intrinsic value as a part of a well-rounded education, to being an instrument to improve school engagement and academic performance, to being a means of fostering social-emotional development. The potential value of arts education lies at the crossroads of these roles.



It is also shaped by a widely shared cultural understanding of art as being a way to express emotions and ideas to others, as well as the emerging research consensus about the deep interconnections among cognitive, emotional, and social-relational aspects of human functioning.

Arts education has often been placed at the periphery of the education world. But as our understanding about the process of learning improves, and as evidence mounts that learning is a deeply, fundamentally social and emotional as well as cultural process, it becomes clearer how and why arts education has much to contribute to children's education and how, in the end, it can help schools and other institutions better support young people in becoming emotionally healthy, engaged, and productive adults.

Arts Education and Social-Emotional Learning Outcomes among K-12 Students: Developing A Theory of Action. 2019. Published by Ingenuity and the UChicago Consortium on School Research.

With support from the California County Superintendents Arts Initiative, and Director, Letty Kraus, the Lake County Office of Education was awarded a technical assistance grant for Strategic Arts Education Planning in 2024.

Lake County Office of Education Strategic Arts Plan

In developing a Vision for the arts served by the LCOE schools, the team highlighted these key areas:

A Culture of Creativity and Curiosity for all Students: Nurturing a Creative Mindset

Supported with:

- Expanding Opportunities for Teaching Artists & Community Connections
- Expanding Professional Arts Integration

Providing Arts Opportunities in:

- Integrated subjects elevating Creativity, Play, and Curiosity
- Movement based practices that support Dance and Theatre
- Integrated academic content using music and rhythm
- Intentional lesson design to incorporate Visual and Media arts throughout the day

What is a Culture of Creativity and Curiosity for all Students?

A Culture of Creativity that is felt and embraced provides:

- A sense of joy and integration
- Students have opportunities to try new art forms
- Builds awareness and knowledge
- Creative/innovation solutions (asking what is the out of the box ideas)
- Multidisciplinary opportunities
- Provocations that draw kids into the design (play-based model- engaged and self-directed learning)

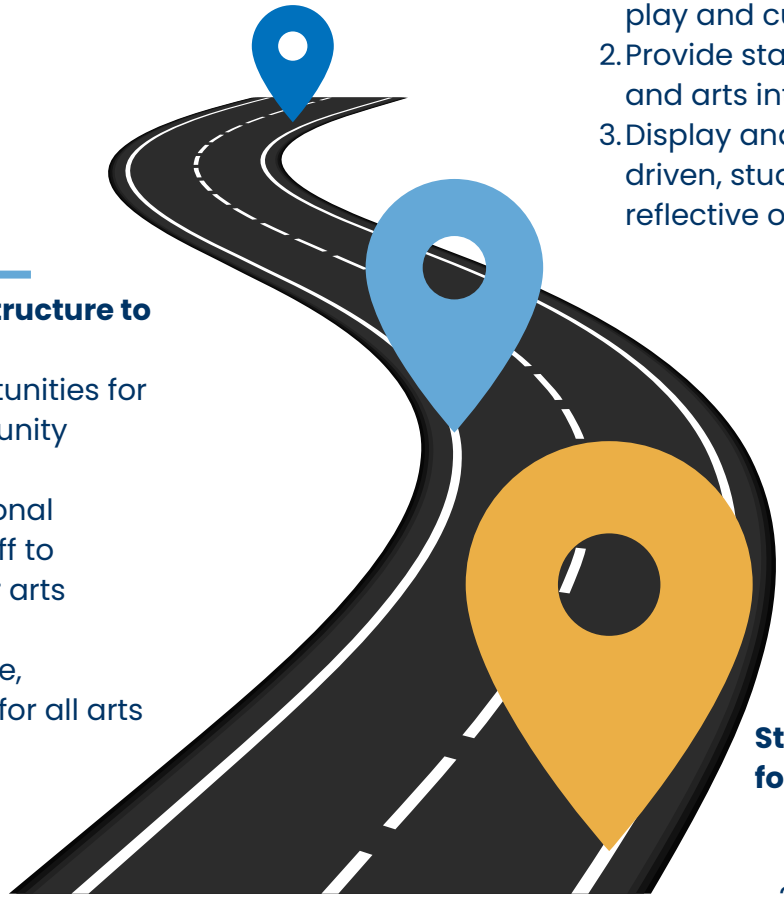
A Culture of Creativity results in expanded participation among more students and families.

Strategic Roadmap

1

Strategic Direction 1: Content–Arts Teaching & Learning

1. Develop a culture of creativity, play and curiosity for all students
2. Provide standards aligned arts and arts integrated content
3. Display and present student driven, student made work reflective of their journey



2

Strategic Direction 2: Infrastructure to Support Arts Opportunities

1. Provide expanded opportunities for teaching artists & community connections
2. Provide relevant Professional Learning to empower staff to deliver arts integration or arts instruction
3. Determine needs in space, equipment and supplies for all arts instruction

3

Strategic Direction 3: Sustainability for the Arts Long-Term

1. Demonstrate and communicate the value of arts education
2. Create plans to spend and report Prop 28 funding allocations annually

Strategic Directions and Goals

Actions Mapped to Goals

Strategic Direction 1: Content-Arts Teaching & Learning

1. Develop a culture of creativity, play & curiosity for all students
    - Implement project-based and play-based arts learning experiences.
    - Develop interdisciplinary arts-infused activities that spark exploration.
    - Support student-driven arts initiatives, and creative collaborations.
2. Provide standards aligned arts and arts integrated content
    - Create arts-integrated lesson plans aligned with curriculum goals across subjects.
    - Develop toolkits and resources for all teachers to incorporate the arts.
3. Provide standards aligned arts and arts integrated content
    - Establish regular student showcases in schools and community spaces.
    - Partner with local galleries and organizations to exhibit student work.
    - Develop digital platforms for virtual student art exhibitions.
    - Design murals on school sites that are iterative each year. (Keep growing/ generative over the years- added to each year).

Strategic Direction 2: Infrastructure to Support Arts Opportunities

4. Provide expanded opportunities for teaching artists & community connections
    - Develop artist residency opportunities for teaching artists in schools.
    - Build a directory of local artists and organizations for partnerships.
    - Ensure teaching artists are trained and equipped to support the students' needs and vision
    - Establish mentorship programs connecting students with professional artists.
5. Provide relevant support to empower staff to deliver arts integration or arts instruction
    - Survey staff for needs/wants around arts education
    - Provide ongoing professional learning in arts integration strategies.
    - Use liberatory design with staff at all schools to create next steps.
    - Create peer collaboration opportunities for educators to share best practices.
6. Determine needs in space, equipment and supplies for all arts instruction
    - Conduct an annual needs assessment for arts infrastructure.
    - Work towards dedicated, well-equipped arts spaces in all schools.
    - Secure funding and partnerships for updated arts materials and technology.

Strategic Directions and Goals

Strategic Direction 3: Sustainability

7. Demonstrate and communicate the value of arts education
    - Share stories of local young artists that demonstrate the value of the arts.
    - Develop an annual report on student impact through arts participation.
    - Showcase arts success stories through social media, newsletters, and events.
    - Engage families and communities in promoting the value and benefits of arts education.

8. Develop creative approaches for best use of the Prop 28 funding allocations annually
    - Develop a transparent, community-informed Prop 28 spending plan.
    - Regularly track and report spending impact on arts education.
    - Align funding with long-term arts education sustainability goals.



Site Specific Goals and Actions

Lake County -State Preschool Programs

Focus Area: Body as Art: Dance and Movement Opportunities		
Action (Strategy)	Tasks/Step	Outcome
Design and Offer Large Scale Productions & Events	Focus on family culture/site culture celebrations that include dance & movement as well as theatre	Family engagement events (centered on art) are taking place at our sites.
Provide Thematic Arts Opportunities	• Videos • Puppetry • Rotating musicians • Plays	Thematic Arts Opportunities are visible in our preschool classrooms.
Invite teaching artists and/or culture bearers to lead and guide movement practices	• Offer Yoga/Tai Chi (Trauma Informed Practices) • Cultural celebrations/dances ◦ Chinese New Year, dragon dance	Students are participating in different guided movement practices at our preschool sites.
Provide Exposure and Exploration with Sound	• Install outdoor instrumentation on playground, monitor use. • Create additional opportunities for students to experiment with sound creation & materials.	Students are engaged with new outdoor instruments, and teachers are encouraging/modeling exploration as needed.

Site Specific Goals and Actions

Lake County –State Preschool Programs

Focus Area: Musical Opportunities		
Action (Strategy)	Tasks/Step	Outcome
Offer Artist In Residence Opportunities	• Thematic teaching within Musical Genres • CRT of music and even Pop culture	Directory of teaching artists is available online, and site leaders are accessing it.
Train Teachers on Music Theory/Songs	Invite Music Together to support teachers, including music that is… • Bicultural • Different Languages • Sign Language Rotation of internal lead teacher to visit schools on biweekly schedule to deliver music instruction (preschool)	The process of hiring and training a teacher in 'Music Together' is taking place, with implementation to follow quickly.
Develop Curriculum around Classical Musicians	• Field Trips and/or visits from Trained Symphony members • Vocabulary of/on instruments	Students are attending field trips and enjoying visits from artists, building appreciation for music.

Site Specific Goals and Actions

Lake County -State Preschool Programs

Focus Area: Musical Opportunities		
Action (Strategy)	Tasks/Step	Outcome
Provide Exposure and Exploration with Sound	• Install outdoor instrumentation on playground, monitor use. • Create additional opportunities for students to experiment with sound creation & materials.	Students are engaged with new outdoor instruments, and teachers are encouraging/modeling exploration as needed.
Develop additional expertise with teachers to expand knowledge of musical instruments to be used daily	Train and encourage teachers to bring music more fully into classrooms; singing and musical cues for transitions, and the use of instruments daily. Examples: • Sticks during circle time • Glockenspiel Curriculum for PK-5	Preschool teachers have received/are receiving training around music and instrumentation, and are providing regular opportunities for students to hear and make music, specifically to use instruments in class.

Site Specific Goals and Actions

Lake County -State Preschool Programs

Focus Area: Visual Arts & Media Arts Opportunities		
Action (Strategy)	Tasks/Step	Outcome
Provide traditional arts activities	• Easel Drawing/Painting with different materials • Painting outside, • Painting non traditional materials ie. leaves, pine cones • Explore emergent Writing and its cross section with drawing	Students are regularly participating in easel drawing and painting, sometimes outside and/or with non-traditional materials. Students are drawing and experimenting with emergent writing in class.
Develop fine motor skills through art	• Cutting and the glueing to create posters (traditional) • Natural Materials- Outdoor Art • Basket Making with Elders/Native American Teachers who want to share culture	Students are observed cutting and gluing, as well as manipulating natural materials, in creative ways that help develop fine motor skills.
Create collaborations with Community Artists and Hance Student Artists	• Murals and Thematic but also culturally or locally relevant • Example: Mural of local Wild flowers • Naturalists included in education: outdoor journaling • Sculpture/Clay	Students are participating in collaborative projects such as murals/thematic pieces at their sites.

Site Specific Goals and Actions

Lake County –State Preschool Programs

Focus Area: Visual Arts & Media Arts Opportunities		
Action (Strategy)	Tasks/Step	Outcome
Invite Hance Student Artists to introduce art to preschool students	• Invite Hance students to act as art 'docents' to introduce art lesson or project at preschool • Provide preparation and "training' for Hance students in developing lessons	Students from Hance are invited to introduce, lead, and/or present art at the preschool(s).
Provide opportunities for Mixed Media projects and celebrations	• Pinatas • Recycled Art • Fashion Art • Finger Weaving • Felting • Puppetry	Students participate in mixed media projects and celebrations at our sites, with opportunities to engage with non-traditional materials.

Site Specific Goals and Actions

Lake County - Clearlake Creativity School & Hance School

Focus Area: Body as Art: Dance and Movement Opportunities		
Action (Strategy)	Tasks/Step	Outcome
Offer choice in movement and theatre activities, with opportunities to perform.	• Culturally relevant dances (Cumbia, pomo, etc)) • Improvisation games- park bench, facial expression, etc • Shakespeare at the Lake: Mendocino College class - get credits • Monologues- student selected subject matter • Continued talent shows and performances for families	Students have meaningful opportunities for self-expression and exploration in dance, improvisation, and/or drama and theater.

Focus Area: Musical Opportunities		
Action (Strategy)	Tasks/Step	Outcome
Offer choice in creating music	• Rhythm and Poetry (RAP)- Word Banks, Sentence structure, beats (math) • Lyrical content • Music engineering basics mixing • Music theory curriculum	Teachers are supported with appropriate curriculum; students are creating and sharing music
Consider artist in residence, professional learning or field trips to experience drumming	• Drum circles (cultural rhythms) • Consider purchasing additional instruments	We are expanding students' musical experiences by training our teachers to create opportunities, bringing artists in to teach, and by offering field trips.

Site Specific Goals and Actions

Lake County - Clearlake Creativity School & Hance School

Focus Area: Visual Arts & Media Arts Opportunities		
Action (Strategy)	Tasks/Step	Outcome
Coordinate with local galleries, arts organizations and naturalists	• Explore having students work show at a local gallery • Launch a collaborative and ongoing art project that allows students to "leave their mark" • Naturalists included in education: outdoor journal • Reach out to Luther Burbank center for resources/supports	Administrators & Educators have a vetted roster of arts partners to choose from.
Provide opportunities for creative expression in visual & media arts	• Photography- nature & culturally relevant subject matter • Nature art with natural materials • Launch a 'film festival' where student short films are shared. Possible theme: What is art? • Stop Motion Animation opportunities included in the Student Film Festival • Older Youth could have the opportunity to market and sell their artwork • Students working to make art with wood, metal, and similar mediums	Student work can be seen and heard on school sites and beyond.
Utilize directory of artists to create a rotation schedule	• Utilize arts ed directory w/ teaching artists and info • Explore Art Chart: rotating teaching artists for periods to ensure multidisciplinary art education for all schools	Teaching artists partner with Hance on a regular basis, rotating to provide different multidisciplinary experiences.
Students explore careers in and through the arts	• Older Youth could have the opportunity to market and sell their artwork • Students working to make art with wood, metal, and similar mediums, that they could market and sell • Students learn from professionals in artistic and creative fields (virtually or in person)	Students see themselves as creative entrepreneurs



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