

Proposition 28: Arts and Music in Schools Funding

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2024-25

Name: Natomas Unified

CDS Code: 3475283-0000000

Allocation Year: 2024-25, 2023-24

1. Narrative description of the Prop 28 arts education program(s) funded. (2500 character limit).

During the 2024-2025 fiscal year, Natomas Unified School District (NUSD) schools strategically implemented Prop 28 Arts Education funding to expand arts programs across elementary, middle, and high schools, despite ongoing challenges in staffing arts educators. The approved waiver allowed NUSD schools to carry over the 2023-2024 allocation, providing greater flexibility to the 80% staffing expenditure requirement. This waiver enabled the school sites to reallocate the resources to targeted arts initiatives that enriched the student experience and fostered artistic development. At the K-5/K-8 schools, there were two key partnerships established; students were offered opportunities to engage in music and theater instruction, including music programs provided by a local arts partner, CLARA, and art programs, focusing on fine art and theater, with necessary supplies. TK-3rd students across sites participated in dance classes while 4th and 5th graders explored music education. In collaboration with our other partner, Dream Enrichment, digital media arts were offered to K-6th students, while 7th-8th grade students participated in drama productions and a spring musical. Current NUSD staff also helped lead the expansion of arts offerings. A Ballet Folklorico dance group, led by a teacher with a dance specialty, provided cultural dance instruction. Infrastructure enhancements across the district included the acquisition of a kiln to support ceramics instruction. Middle school programming included ceramics, general art, and music classes, with an additional art teacher hired to enhance middle school arts education. Advanced art electives were provided to high school students, and a new Introduction to Musical Arts class was created, supported by the purchase of instruments and digital photography equipment. Current work includes the development of a new curriculum for summer and the 25-26 school year to ensure both continuity in arts education and advanced offerings. Staff continue to develop innovative approaches to staffing and recruitment to hire arts educators into NUSD in alignment with the Prop. 28 requirements. Throughout these initiatives, NUSD strategically leveraged the flexibility granted by the waiver to maximize arts access and engagement for students despite staffing limitations.

2. Number of full-time equivalent teachers (certificated). 5.0

3. Number of full-time equivalent personnel (classified). 0.0

4. Number of full-time equivalent teaching aides. 0.0

5. Number of students served. 6,134

6. Number of school sites providing arts education. 14

Date of Approval by Governing Board/Body 6/11/2025 8:29:04 PM

Annual Report Data URL

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Submission Date 6/11/2025 8:32:31 PM