Proposition 28: Arts and Music in Schools Funding
Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2025-26

Name: Fresno Unified School District

County-District-School (CDS) Code: 1062166-0000000

Allocation Years: 2023–24, 2024–25, 2025–26

1. Narrative description of the Proposition 28 arts education programs funded (2500 character limit).

Proposition 28 provides dedicated funding to expand access to high-quality arts education, recognizing the essential role the arts play in supporting academic achievement, creativity, student well-being, self-expression, and an appreciation for diverse cultures and perspectives. Since its implementation, Fresno Unified School District has received approximately $12.8 million in 2023/24, $12.1 million in 2024/25, and $13,796,650 in 2025/26 to strengthen arts education opportunities for students.
During the initial implementation of Proposition 28, school principals received guidance regarding the allowable use of funds in accordance with state law. Schools were informed that at least 80% of allocated funds must be used to employ certificated or classified staff who provide arts instruction, including elementary arts teachers, secondary arts teachers, teacher assistants, and instructional aides. Principals were also advised that any positions funded through Proposition 28 must align with the approved job description. The remaining 20% of funds may be used for professional learning, instructional materials, supplies, equipment, and arts education partnership programs.
Because the initial funding was received late in the 2023/24 school year, many secondary schools used their allocations to purchase additional teaching periods, allowing existing arts teachers to teach extra sections and expand student access to arts courses. Districtwide investments also included the addition of two full-time dance teachers and one full-time theater teacher.
In 2024/25, Fresno Unified launched its Elementary Arts Integration and Elementary Dance programs, hiring 15 teachers to serve 30 elementary schools. The District also expanded its mariachi and folklórico programs in response to student and community interest, added one high school music teacher, hired five additional secondary visual arts teachers, and funded 12.8 full-time equivalent (FTE) extra-period teaching assignments to increase secondary arts course offerings.
By 2025/26, the District further expanded elementary arts programming by hiring an additional 17 teachers, extending Elementary Arts Integration and Elementary Dance programs to 63 elementary schools. Since Proposition 28 funding became available, Fresno Unified has added 57.3 full-time equivalent (FTE) arts education positions serving students from transitional kindergarten through grade 12. These investments have significantly increased student access to comprehensive, standards-aligned arts instruction across dance, music, theatre, visual arts, and arts integration.
Fresno Unified is grateful to California voters for recognizing the importance of arts education through the passage of Proposition 28. These ongoing investments have allowed the district to expand equitable access to high-quality arts programs, strengthen staffing, and continue building sustainable arts education opportunities that support the academic, creative, and personal growth of every student.

2. Number of full-time equivalent teachers (certificated) providing arts education programs with Arts and Music in Schools (AMS) funds: 57.3

3. Number of full-time equivalent personnel (classified) providing arts education programs with AMS funds: .4

4. Number of full-time equivalent teaching aides providing arts education programs with AMS funds: 0

5. Number of students served with AMS funds: 64,423

6. Number of school sites providing arts education programs with AMS funds: 100

Date of Approval by Governing Board/Body:

Annual Report Data URL (direct PDF link to document on local educational agency website)

Arts Education - Fresno Unified School District