



MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
RESOLUTION 23/24-31

Resolution of the Rights of All Students to Equity in Arts Learning

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District (MDUSD) acknowledges that arts learning – which includes dance, music, theater, and visual and media arts – is an essential part of a comprehensive education for all students, PreK-12, to prepare them for college, career and life; and

WHEREAS, arts learning promotes critical thinking and problem-solving skills, supports overall academic achievement and nurtures skills that help all students in MDUSD succeed in school and in life; and

WHEREAS, MDUSD recognizes that particular groups of students experience significant barriers to access, participation and success in arts learning and that these barriers are directly linked to historical, persistent and pervasive inequities in our educational system; and

WHEREAS, we do adopt this resolution as follows:

1. Every student has the right to equitable access to PreK-12 free, coherent and sequential standards-based, high quality arts learning that is part of the core curriculum and that provides both integrated and discrete visual and performing arts learning opportunities; and the right to equitable outcomes as a result of this access, without distinction on account of race, culture, language, religion, national origin, geographical location or legal status.
2. All students have the right to special protection for every student's artistic and aesthetic development. The right to protection from policies and practices that exclude or preclude certain students or populations from equitable access to and success in powerful and coherent arts learning PreK-12.
3. All students have the right to arts learning that is culturally and linguistically responsive and relevant, with particular attention to those populations that have traditionally been excluded or precluded, such as multilingual students, students of color, foster youth, students experiencing homelessness, students participating in free and reduced meal programs, and students with unique needs.
4. All students have the right to arts studies in dance, music, theater, and media and visual arts learning programs in every school, district and community that are funded and supported with the necessary resources – including qualified administrators, teachers, teaching artists and other staff; adequate materials; and appropriate facilities – to support and honor powerful culturally and linguistically responsive arts learning.
5. All students have the right to engage with educators, leaders and community members who understand and are knowledgeable about the intrinsic and extrinsic benefits of arts learning for individual students, families/communities, the nation and global society.

6. All students have the right to learn and practice the arts in a positive environment where everyone understands and acts on the knowledge that they are engaging in valuable and important work; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that MDUSD recognizes the powerful impact that an arts curriculum has in the cognitive and social development of students and its role as an essential component of a comprehensive education;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the MDUSD Board of Education adopts this Resolution and commits to taking the following actions:

- Post the Arts Equity District badge on the district’s website.
- Encourage students to participate in the visual and performing arts that will help promote their academic achievement, express creativity and support social development.
- Dedicate appropriate resources providing suitable equipment, materials, and facilities that allow our students to participate in visual and performing arts learning.
- Promote arts learning that honors all cultures and languages by developing staff capacities, identifying community resources and creating opportunities for students to contribute to the design of their learning.

AYES: NOES: ABSENCES: ABSTENTIONS:

Keisha Nzewi, Board Member

Erin McFerrin, Board Member

Cherise Khaund, Board Member

Debra Mason, Board Member

Linda Mayo, Board Member

Dr. Adam Clark, Superintendent

*Resolution 23/24-31
Adopted at the meeting of the MDUSD Governing Board of Education on 12/13/2023*
