

Seal of Fine Arts Acceleration Points Talking Points

Equity, Rigor, & Student Engagement**Acceleration Points for additional unique group of students**

- Initiative targets a very specific, limited population of students who have not earned an acceleration point in another curricular area.
- This initiative encourages and supports schools to schedule arts students in comprehensive, sequential courses to earn the rigorous Fine Arts Seal rather than an unrelated course in search of an acceleration point.
- This will be a win-win for schools and students.

Recognizes the Value of Artistic Rigor and Excellence

- Students who earn the rigorous Seal of Fine Arts would receive academic recognition like AP, IB, and others and career and technical certifications that qualify for acceleration points.
- Rigorous arts courses require assessments, performances, projects, and deep learning just like AP and IB courses.
- Arts students undergo rigorous evaluations that measure skill mastery, much like standardized testing in academic subjects

Recognizes and Rewards Diverse Learning Styles

- Earning the rigorous Seal of Fine Arts will engage students who may not thrive in traditional academic settings by keeping them motivated and invested in school.
- Improved attendance by students working to earn the Seal may translate into success in tested areas also positively impacting school grade.

Length of Time in Arts Programs Translates to Success in Other Areas

- Data from the Florida DOE suggest there is a correlation between the length of time (years) students participate in arts programs and greater success in other academic areas and standardized tests.
- The Seal of Fine Arts rewards students for rigor and perseverance over time.

Reduces Dropout Rates

- Students who earn the Seal of Fine Arts will contribute to higher graduation rates, another positive outcome for schools and school grades.

College & Career Readiness**Prepares Students for Higher Education**

- Colleges value well-rounded applicants with training in the arts, as it demonstrates creativity, commitment, collaboration, and consistent commitment to excellence over time.

Builds Transferable Skills for the Workforce

- Creativity, teamwork, adaptability, and communication are highly sought-after skills in today's job market.
- The arts enhance STEM fields by fostering innovative thinking and hands-on learning.
- The Seal of Fine Arts requires students to demonstrate their learning in performance-based adjudicated settings.