



2026 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

The Legislative Platform is a product of the
Center for Fine Arts Education Advocacy Committee

Fine Arts Academic Achievement and Alignment

- Support accountability revision that would award an acceleration point for students who earn the Seal of Fine Arts
- Allow enrollment in one year of Dance Technique Courses to satisfy the one high school required PE/Health course (HOPE).
- Allow participation of 2 years of marching band to satisfy the school-required PE/Health requirements, including the Personal Fitness Requirement.
- Oppose mandates and/or legislation that may cause unintended consequences of limiting students' access to sequential fine arts coursework, including the continued erosion of the Fine Arts Credit.
- Support funding and/or processes to make Florida arts education data accessible to all stakeholders, either by funding membership in the Arts Education Data Project <https://artseddata.org/> or streamlining DOE data for greater ease and accessibility.
- Support additional funding for the Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Program. Florida Statute 1003.481 recognizes the importance of early childhood education.

Education Funding

- Fully fund Division of Arts and Culture grants that earn passing scores.
- Provide for an annual increase in the Base Student Allocation commensurate with the rate of inflation and cost of living to ensure a high-quality, comprehensive education, including access to arts programs for all students.
- Simplify the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) and ensure transparency by creating a separate funding stream for the voucher program (Family Empowerment Scholarships).
- Support legislation to address concerns related to co-location issues associated with prior Schools of Hope Legislation.
- Minimize the impact to school districts from any proposed property tax reform.

Educational Accountability

- Require the same accountability measures for all schools and vouchers receiving state funding.

Teacher Recruitment and Retention

- Provide flexibility and support for recruiting and retaining high-performing teachers and staff to deliver high-quality instruction (including arts education).
- Increase teacher salaries in a meaningful, sustainable manner to attract and retain highly effective teachers.
- Support any potential legislative language to include stipends for visual and performing arts teachers for duties outside the contracted workday.
- Add clarifying language to HB 875 (from the 2025 session) to ensure performing and visual arts teachers possess the qualifications and training needed to provide high-quality instruction for Florida students.