

# OKLAHOMA ARTS EDUCATION DATA DASHBOARD



OKLAHOMA  
Education



**COMMUNICATIONS  
TOOLKIT**

# TALKING POINTS

*Want to be an expert in all things Oklahoma Arts Education Data Dashboard? We've got you covered.*

- 1 Oklahoma is one of 21 states to partner with the Arts Education Data Project, a movement to compile and display arts funding and participation data for arts education including dance, media arts, music, theater and visual arts.
  - The result is an interactive dashboard, that allows the user to review data for any school district or school in Oklahoma and gain an understanding—through data—of arts education in their school.

- 2 The project is designed to help increase equity in access and participation in high-quality arts education in Oklahoma schools, offering students important skills they can carry with them in the future.
  - The lack of funding from local, state and national governments has arts educators on high alert and in defense of their all-important programs.

According to [Pepperdine University](#), since the 1960s, arts funding has decreased 43.4% through the years.

- 3 The dashboard reports school-, district- and regional-level data on arts education courses and participation across the state for pre-kindergarten through high school students.
  - This helps parents and advocates identify equities and inequities of arts education in Oklahoma schools and to address those issues with data.

- 4 Advocates can then engage with other educators, elected officials and school leaders to discuss funding inequities and work to offer more access to core arts education curriculum within their district.

- 5 The Oklahoma Arts Education Data Dashboard is a partnership between [Oklahomans for the Arts](#), the [State Department of Education](#), the [Oklahoma Arts Council](#) and the [Kirkpatrick Family Fund](#).

# FAQS

*We are sure you and your advocates have a lot of questions, here are a few answers below to get you started.*

## **FROM WHERE DID THE DATA COME?**

The data for this dashboard is collected from Oklahoma school districts in a yearly accreditation report. The data is self-reported and may include reporting errors.

## **HOW DO I REPORT INACCURATE INFORMATION ABOUT MY SCHOOL?**

If you see inaccurate information, contact the [website moderators](#).

## **WHY ARE THE TOTAL ARTS STUDENT NUMBERS DIFFERENT ON THE OVERVIEW TAB AND THE ARTS DISCIPLINES TAB?**

The Overview tab counts every student as one student, even if they are taking multiple arts classes. For example, a student who is enrolled in concert choir and art I is counted as one arts student in the Overview tab. On the Arts Disciplines tab, you'll see a higher number for the total of arts students because that student is counted in every discipline area they are enrolled in (so the student is counted once for music and once for visual arts).

## **WHY DON'T I SEE ANY INFORMATION FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSES?**

In Oklahoma and across the nation, middle school classes are part of the PK-8 elementary grade span. Therefore, middle school visual art classes are reported as "ES Art," middle school band classes are reported as "ES Band," etc. The enrollment numbers for those courses include all students in grades PK-8. To understand the middle school enrollment for a certain course, look at enrollment by grade level or filter a view for a certain middle school site.

## **AS A PARENT, HOW DOES THIS SITE HELP ME?**

We know your student's education is important to you, including their arts education. The dashboard can be a tool to be used for advocacy for the arts for your school. We recommend the following tabs:

### **SCHOOL PROFILE TAB**

This tab contains specific arts information on the school your child attends or will be attending.

### **COURSE FINDER TAB**

This can be used to search for a school in your area that offers a specific subject area.

### **DISCIPLINES OFFERED TAB**

This gives families an overall view of what subjects are offered in schools across the state.

## **AS AN ADMINISTRATOR, HOW DOES THIS SITE HELP ME?**

The Oklahoma Arts Education Data Dashboard offers administrators an almost overwhelming amount of information. The dashboard can be a tool to be used for advocacy for the arts for your school. Some recommended tabs include:

### **STATE OVERVIEW TAB**

This view allows you to look at the state by county and make comparisons between districts.

### **DISTRICT-LEVEL ARTS TAB**

This tab allows you to zoom into more specific information at the district level.

### **YEAR-OVER-YEAR & TRENDS OVER TIME TAB**

These may be helpful if you are looking for changes in your district or other districts.

### **SCHOOL PROFILE & DISTRICT/SCHOOL COMPARISONS TAB**

These tabs offer specific information about districts across the state.

## **WHY DO CERTAIN DISTRICTS SEEM TO HAVE INACCURATE TEACHER NUMBERS?**

Within the dashboard, a majority of teachers reported are teachers who are teaching the arts for the full school day and have a degree in the area they are teaching. Some elementary classroom teachers with older certifications may have been reported as teaching music or visual art due to the different certification expectations of that time. In the future, the Oklahoma State Department of Education will work with districts to clarify the reporting of teacher data, especially those teachers with older certifications.

## MY CHILD'S SCHOOL/DISTRICT DOESN'T OFFER ARTS CLASSES OR DOESN'T OFFER THE SUBJECT IN WHICH THEY ARE INTERESTED. HOW DO I CHANGE THIS?

Advocacy is a good place to start. Perhaps your district administration or board of education isn't aware of your concerns. Visit the advocacy sites below to learn more about what you can do in your local area.

- [nafme.org](http://nafme.org)
- [arteducators.org](http://arteducators.org)
- [schooltheatre.org](http://schooltheatre.org)
- [ndeo.org](http://ndeo.org)
- [americansforthearts.org](http://americansforthearts.org)

## WHY ARE SOME SCHOOLS MISSING?

The dashboard does not include charter schools or Career Tech sites in the data. Charter schools were excluded because they do not follow the same expectations as traditional public schools; namely, their teachers do not need to be certified in a subject area in order to teach it. For example, some charter schools may have math certified teachers teaching visual art or elementary certified teachers teaching high school band. Those educators may be excelling in their positions, but as this dashboard focuses on arts education taught by certified arts educators, the inclusion of those teachers would skew the data. In the case of virtual charter schools, one educator would be counted for one single student, artificially inflating the number of Oklahoma arts educators by hundreds if not thousands.

Career Tech offerings were also excluded from the dashboard. Career Tech sites fill a void for many districts when it comes to arts classes, but since these courses are often taught away from the high school and may only be available to certain students, they do not represent an equitable arts education.

## OKLAHOMA STATE EDUCATION POLICY

Oklahoma statute includes the following: *School districts shall develop and implement curriculum, courses, and instruction in order to ensure that students meet the skills and competencies as set forth in this section and in the subject matter standards adopted by the State Board of Education. Students, therefore, shall study social studies, literature, languages, the arts, mathematics, and science (70 O.S. 11-103.6).*

## OKLAHOMA STATE GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

In Oklahoma, one fine arts course credit is required for high school graduation (70 O.S. 11-103.6).

Oklahoma high school college preparatory/work ready students shall complete the following college preparatory/work ready curriculum units or sets of competencies at the secondary level:

- One unit or set of competencies of fine arts, such as music, art, or drama, or one unit or set of competencies of speech.

Oklahoma high school core students shall complete the following core curriculum units or sets of competencies at the secondary level:

- Arts - One unit or set of competencies which may include, but is not limited to, courses in visual arts and general music.

Fine arts includes dance, drama/theatre, music, or visual art. Classes in any of the four subject areas will meet graduation requirements for either graduation pathway.

## COURSE NAMES

Throughout the report, Oklahoma State Department of Education subject code names are used for dance, drama/theatre, music, and visual art. The current codes are available on the [OSDE Accreditation site](#) under Documents-Subject Codes. More information on fine arts course codes and course descriptions may be found on the [OSDE Fine Arts Course Codes site](#).

# NEWSLETTER ARTICLE

*Want to get the word out? Use this short article when communicating with various constituents or other arts education advocates via email or print.*

## **Oklahoma Arts Education Data - Now available at the click of a mouse**

Oklahomans now have access to an online, interactive tool that provides insight to arts education data for all pre-K through 12 schools across the state.

The dashboard allows anyone to view school-, district- and regional-level data to show equities and inequities in access to arts education. The user-friendly, color-coded dashboard was created through a partnership between Oklahomans for the Arts, the State Department of Education, the Oklahoma Arts Council and the Kirkpatrick Family Fund.

Part of the Arts Education Data Project, Oklahoma is one of 21 states in the nation to participate in this project. The AEDP has been working for more than a decade to create the proper conditions for arts education data reporting and presentation. Before the project, no one knew the true status and condition of arts education in the more than 100,000 schools serving more than 50 million students nationwide.

Some of the early data trends identified in the dashboard:

In the 2019-2020 school year:

- 60% of Oklahoma students were enrolled in an arts class
- 84% of schools provided access to arts instruction
- 90% of Oklahoma students attend a school where at least one fine arts class is offered

To learn more about the project and access the dashboard or view information about your school or district, please visit [ok4arts.org/oklahoma-arts-education-data-project](https://ok4arts.org/oklahoma-arts-education-data-project).

# SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

*Ready to share with your followers? Here are a few examples of posts, photos and videos you can use when promoting the Oklahoma Arts Education Data Dashboard.*

## BRAND AWARENESS

Does your school district provide access to arts education? The Oklahoma Arts Education Data Project's interactive, color-coded dashboard shows arts education data for all schools and districts in Oklahoma. Dive into your school or district's data now at <https://bit.ly/39zJQI9>.

Arts education funding has decreased 43.4% since the 1960s. Advocate for your school district with the Oklahoma Arts Education Data Project's interactive dashboard and gain insight into our state's current arts programs and funding. Become an advocate for arts education today by visiting <https://bit.ly/39zJQI9>.

## DATA-SPECIFIC

60% of Oklahoma students were enrolled in an arts class and 84% of schools provided access to arts instruction in the 2019-2020 school year. Our goal is to continue to increase arts education awareness throughout the state. Learn more about arts education in your district with our interactive dashboard: <https://bit.ly/3mbWEcR>.

90% of Oklahoma students attend a school where at least one fine arts class is offered, but only 60% of students are enrolled. Help us increase the participation in arts education through the Oklahoma Arts Education Data Project. View the data and become an advocate at <https://bit.ly/3mbWEcR>.

10% of Oklahoma students attend a school with no arts education courses. Help support the Oklahoma State Department of Education's goal to advocate for art instruction in all schools. Visit the Oklahoma Arts Education Data Dashboard to learn how you can support your district in creating a pro-arts education Oklahoma. <https://bit.ly/3mbWEcR>.



# ABOUT THE PARTNERS

## ABOUT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Oklahoma State Department of Education is the state agency charged with determining the policies and directing the administration and supervision of the public school system of Oklahoma. The State Board of Education, the governing body of the Department, is composed of the Oklahoma State Superintendent of Public Instruction and six members. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, in addition to serving as chair of the Board, serves as the chief executive officer of the Department and is elected by the voters of Oklahoma every four years.

## ABOUT OKLAHOMANS FOR THE ARTS

Founded in 2011, Oklahomans for the Arts is a nonprofit statewide arts advocacy organization made up of a consortium of individuals and organizations committed to advancing the arts as essential to improving the lives of Oklahomans and the economic vitality of our state. For more information about Oklahomans for the Arts, visit [ok4arts.org](http://ok4arts.org).

## ABOUT THE OKLAHOMA ARTS COUNCIL

The Oklahoma Arts Council is the official state agency for the support and development of the arts. The agency's mission is to lead in the advancement of Oklahoma's thriving arts industry. The Oklahoma Arts Council provides more than 425 grants to nearly 270 organizations in communities statewide each year, organizes professional development opportunities for the state's arts and cultural industry, and manages the art collections at the Oklahoma State Capitol. Additional information is available at [arts.ok.gov](http://arts.ok.gov).

## ABOUT THE KIRKPATRICK FAMILY FUND

To invest in ideas and leadership that contribute to and advance the cultural, intellectual and social interests of the communities we support.