

Proposition 28: Arts and Music in Schools Funding

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2025-26

Name: Santa Clara Co. Office of Education

CDS Code: 4310439-0000000

Allocation Year: 2024-25, 2023-24

1. Narrative description of the Prop 28 arts education program(s) funded. (2500 character limit).

Funds were utilized to hire a certificated Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) teacher, with plans underway to add a second VAPA teacher to further expand art education for students in Court, Community, Special Education, and State Preschool programs. These services span multiple sites collectively serving 50 classrooms. The goal is to foster creativity, self-expression, and skill development for learners from preschool through adulthood. Through this support, we designed customized visual arts activities tailored to the diverse needs of our students, including those who are medically fragile, hard of hearing, or visually impaired. Projects ranged from cardboard constructions, puppet making, dot painting, and paper crafts to cutting exercises aimed at improving fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination. Collaboration with classroom teachers ensured alignment with student interests and monthly themes, sustaining engagement and encouraging developmental progress. The performing arts portion incorporated music and sensory-rich materials. Familiar songs were paired with scarves, textured props, and a variety of instruments to promote self-expression, enhance social interaction, and provide meaningful sensory experiences for all participants. In Alternative Education programs, students explored art fundamentals such as color theory, shading, line drawing, mandalas, and illusions, building technical skills while encouraging personal creativity. Supplies and adaptive tools prioritized accessibility and safety. Looking to 2025–26, the program will grow to serve 92 classrooms. Special Education, Court and Community Schools will expand collaborative projects, creating murals, handmade cards, soaps, and jewelry. Partnerships with the Environmental Education Program Manager will integrate environmental themes, with some projects sold locally. Planned community engagement includes participation in San Jose's Christmas in the Park and outreach. New offerings will include graphic design, animation, and photography for adult learners, utilizing cameras, iPads, and editing software. Teacher and principal feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, noting therapeutic benefits, student enjoyment, and a marked ability for students particularly those with special needs to remain calm, focused, and deeply engaged during sessions.

2. Number of full-time equivalent teachers (certificated). 1.0

3. Number of full-time equivalent personnel (classified). 0.0

4. Number of full-time equivalent teaching aides. 0.0

5. Number of students served. 667

6. Number of school sites providing arts education. 3

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