



Coalition Organizations:

California Music Educators Association (CMEA) • National Association for Music Education (NAfME)
• California American String Teachers Association (Cal ASTA) • California Alliance for Jazz (CAJ) •
California Band Directors Association (CBDA) • California Choral Directors Association (CCDA) •
California Orchestra Directors Association (CODA) • Music Association of California Community
Colleges (MACCC) • Northern California Band Association (NCBA) • Northern California Band and
Choral Directors Association (NCBCDA) • Southern California School Band and Orchestra
Association (SCSBOA) • Southern California Vocal Association (SCVA)

STAND UP 4 ARTS EDUCATION ADVOCACY DAY MARCH 21, 2023

TALKING POINTS

- **Introduction:** Introduce yourself. If you are constituent of the legislator, make sure you state this. If your child is in a music program/ensemble/ other art discipline, or if you are a member of CMEA, SU4 Arts Education, NAFME or NAMM, state this as well, along with the title of any office you may hold in the organization.
- **Purpose of Advocacy Day:**
 - To inform legislators and other key policy makers about CMEA and other statewide Arts Education organizations. (Email brochures, if available, about the statewide organizations beforehand or as a follow-up to virtual meeting.)
 - To inform legislators and other key policy makers that:
 - music and other arts education disciplines are required courses of study for first grade through 12th grade. (EC Section 51210(a)(5) and 51220(g)).
 - music and other arts education disciplines are included in California's graduation requirements and in eligibility standards for admission to the University of California and the California State University.
 - music education is a sequential course of study, standards-based, taught by a credentialed (music/arts) teacher and accessed by **ALL** students **during the school day!**
 - To seek support (policy and resources) from legislators and other key policy makers of the importance of a standards-based Arts education in our public schools.
- **Relay the Benefits of a Standards-Based Arts Education:**
 - Music and the arts are vital to every child's education.
 - Leads to life-long learning and knowledge of self and culture.
 - Engages students and supports social-emotional development.
- **Relay Recent Developments Regarding Arts Education:**
 - **Prop 28-Art and Music K-12 Education Funding Initiative** was on the November 2022 ballot and was approved by 64.4% of the voters. LEAs would receive approximately \$941 million for arts and music programs. These additional funds would expand arts education, including music, course offerings in our public schools thereby increasing access to all students to a music education and other arts education.
 - A \$100 million one-time Prop 98 General Funds for allocation to LEAs to increase high school seniors' engagement with arts and cultural institutions, museums and art enrichment experiences within California is proposed in the Governor's 2023-24 State Budget.
 - A reduction of \$1 billion dollars to the Arts, Music and Instructional Materials Block Grant contained in the Education Budget Trailer Bill of 2022 (Ch.571 of Statutes of 2022).
 - A COLA of 8.13% is proposed for the LCFF, resulting in an increase of \$4.2 billion dollars for the LCFF.

CMEA is very pleased about the passage of Proposition 28 and excited about its implementation. The ballot measure will bring equity among arts education in schools and districts - and this can be accomplished through the enforcement of existing ed code.

• **CMEA “Asks” are:**

- **Seek clarification and accountability of Prop 28.** There is very little, if any, accountability provisions in Prop 28 on issues such as ensuring increased capacity of credentialed teachers for the maintenance and expansion of music and other arts education programs. Clarification on areas that require further guidance or definition, such as what is considered supplanting of funds, is necessary. Additionally, Prop 28 funding should be monitored to ensure smaller schools and districts receive their fair share of funding. Clarification and accountability should be included in the TK-12 education budget trailer bill and in the regulations to be developed by CDE.
- **CMEA opposes the proposed \$ billion cuts from the Arts, Music and Instructional Materials Block Grant.** The arts and music education programs experienced significant reduction in funding and scope of programs resulting from the past two significant recessions. Prop 28 will assist in addressing that loss by providing a minimum of funding for the arts and music programs. Reducing the Block Grant by \$1billion significantly impacts current planning efforts of LEAs for the use of these funds.
- **AB 238 (Muratsuchi) California Student Teacher Support Grant Program.** This bill expresses the intent of the Legislature, to improve teacher retention and recruitment in California’s public school system, to create a grant program to compensate student teachers to help alleviate financial stress at an important time in the teacher preparation process. The bill would, contingent upon an appropriation of one-time funding, establish the California Student Teacher Support Grant Program, under the administration of the Student Aid Commission, to award grants of an unspecified amount to teaching credential candidates to compensate the candidates while they perform the required student teaching.
- **Enforce arts education compliance** of Education Code Sections 51210(a)(5) and 51220(g) which require all schools to provide music and other visual and other arts education disciplines as required courses of study. Currently, access to a quality standards-based arts education varies by school and district. All schools should provide an arts education to all students. Arts education plays a vital role in cognitive, creative, social, cultural, and emotional development of our children.
- **Arts education should be a priority in any “post pandemic” rebuilding initiatives or programs such as the learning loss programs or programs for students that address social emotional mental health issue.** For many students, COVID 19 caused considerable academic and socio-emotional deficits. Providing an arts education has been shown to be effective in addressing these issues.

