



MI CREATIVE STATE

Arts Education Policy & Practice **Roadmap**

Presented by:

2027-28



Letter from the Director

If I have learned anything about arts education policy and advocacy over the past fifteen years working with the Michigan Assessment Consortium, it is that arts education advocacy is not a sprint or even a marathon. It is a triathlon with feats in legislation, state protocol/practice, and implementation in the field. And there is no finish line.



As an arts educator, I thought that advocating to a policymaker was sufficient in setting the ball in motion and the system would then take over and change would occur.

I didn't understand that each stakeholder group, whether they are legislators, state agency leaders, arts education association representatives, or district employees have their own set of obstacles and processes that can gum up the works.

After getting to know the people and the processes within these groups, here's what I believe:

- Most people value the arts, culture, and arts education.
- Most policymakers are good people, doing good work, with competing demands related to budgets, time, attention, or a clear understanding of how the arts provide solutions to the problems they are striving to solve.
- Having a consistent intermediary—a backbone organization that connects entities and efforts—to coach each leg of the race is critical.

The *MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Roadmap* is one aspect of this vital coaching. It is an aspirational framework for how we can collectively create more arts learning for the youth in our schools and communities. Data is meaningless without people to use it in relational work that creates the change we long to see. We are collaborating with statewide partners to create systems that support sustainable growth.

YOU play an important role in helping Michigan's students meet and exceed their creative potential.

I remain hopeful that together we will advance and sustain access to quality arts education for all of Michigan's students.

Yours in creativity,

Heather Vaughan-Southard
Director, MI Creative Potential
Michigan Assessment Consortium

Support from Arts Education Leaders

What is most exciting about our future is understanding that our next act relies on public, private, and philanthropic support. This demands a unity of purpose. We invite you to share the resources, publications, and courses to be released and join us in the outreach and advocacy efforts propelling our future so that we increase access to arts education for all of Michigan's children.

Dr. Kathryn Dewsbury-White, CEO
Michigan Assessment Consortium



The MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Roadmap will increase access to arts education for all students, impacting their lives in real, measurable ways. This document charts clear paths forward for local, regional and state leaders, ensuring a collective approach to solving a complex problem. Arts advocates across the country can learn from this example.

Brent Hasty, PhD, Executive Director
Jackson Knowles, National Program Director
MINDPOP



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Purpose of the MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Roadmap

The purpose of the *MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Roadmap* is to establish a cohesive, accurate understanding of Michigan's arts education policies and practices among the state's champions of arts education.

- Arts education policy lives within the legislative codes, statutes, and funding allocations determined by state legislators.
- Arts education practices, in this document, refer to the internal and interrelated systems established in and between state agencies, intermediate school districts (ISD), and local school districts.

Having a unified vision of where we are now and where we want to go allows arts education advocates and ambassadors to work realistically, and practically, toward shared goals, on a shared timeline, with streamlined messaging. This also helps us target the appropriate change agents to whom we advocate for improvements.

The Roadmap proposes improvements for arts education at state, regional, and local levels. The MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice resources are designed to be used in concert to connect data, policy, process, and practice, effecting systems change through a holistic approach and collective impact.

The guiding questions for the Roadmap are:

1. What can be guaranteed at the state level without prescribing how it is implemented at the local level?
2. How do state and local arts education policies work together to create equitable access to quality arts education?
3. What does statewide data reveal about our growth and our evolving policy needs?

artlook® Michigan serves as the data collection platform and school and community arts partnership portal which, once fully implemented, will provide sustained arts education data shared through an annual MI Creative State Report with regional profiles. The quantitative and qualitative data collected will help MI Creative Potential leadership, partners, and affiliates ascertain next steps related to policy action. While the *artlook®* rollout occurs, the MI Creative State Report 2024 offers the most current statewide arts education data available and can be found on the MI Creative Potential website at www.micreativepotential.org.

The Roadmap policy items have been sequenced by MI Creative Potential leadership, Partners, and Affiliates, with feedback from the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), the Michigan Arts and Culture Council (MACC), Michigan legislators, and public policy specialists. Representatives from the Michigan Art Education Association (MAEA) and the Michigan Music Education Association (MMEA) served as working group leads.

Introduction to MI Creative Potential

In 2011, the Michigan Assessment Consortium (MAC) launched the Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment project (MAEIA). It began with a contract to develop arts assessment resources on behalf of the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), then broadened with support from the Michigan Arts and Culture Council (MACC) to bring those resources to arts educators throughout the state.

When Creative Many Michigan and Michigan Youth Arts dissolved, the MAC recognized their intermediary role between state agencies, state arts education associations, and Michigan's arts education field at large as a reason to lead a statewide arts education survey, convene partners and collaborators, and to develop arts education resources beyond instruction and assessment.

As the Michigan Assessment Consortium's focus has broadened to include arts education policy and engagement as well as school community arts partnerships, so too has the project's umbrella. MAEIA is now a component of MI Creative Potential, with the latter producing resources that serve the field beyond classroom practice to include the implementation of an arts ecosystem with state level policy guidance, data collection and reporting, and career pathways in and through the arts.

MI Creative Potential advances equitable access to quality arts education for all Michigan's students through three pillars of activity supported by arts education data and strategic partnerships: Arts Education Policy, Funding, and Engagement; Arts Instruction and Assessment; and School and Community Partnerships.

Each MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice resource provides useful tools to help leaders like you advance our shared goals, including:

- Michigan Blueprint of Comprehensive Arts Education Policy and Practice
- *artlook*® Michigan data dashboard and partnership portal
- MI Creative State Report
- MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Roadmap
- MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Toolkit
- Michigan Blueprint of a Quality K–12 Arts Education Program Professional Learning

The MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice resources

Michigan Blueprint of Comprehensive Arts Education Policy and Practice (in development) will outline the “gold standard” for arts education policy and will include eight criteria with state, regional, and local district indicators under each criterion:

- Partnerships
- Policies related to Access
- Policies related to Quality
- Sustained Arts Education Funding
- Data Collection and Reporting
- High Quality Arts Education Resources
- Lobbying and Advocacy
- Sustained, Mutually Reinforcing Activities for Collective Impact

artlook® Michigan is an arts education data platform and partnership portal for school and community arts partnerships, currently in the second year of a four-year roll-out. State, regional, and local arts education data drives the:

- Measurement of growth to be used in regional planning and asset mapping as well as district/school continuous improvement planning which include arts education policy and practices improvements to be made at state and local levels.
- Tailoring of programing and funding allocations by state agencies, arts education associations, ISDs, and districts for accountability and impact.

MI Creative State Report shares statewide arts education data. MI Creative State Report 2024 was the first arts education survey data report since 2011 and was conducted by the Michigan Assessment Consortium’s MI Creative Potential.

Future editions will use arts education data collected through *artlook® Michigan* and will include Regional Arts Education Network profiles describing arts education activities and successes aligned in the state’s 10 prosperity regions.

MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Roadmap provides a data-driven action agenda for policy improvements. It is a goal-setting document:

- Iteratively updated with key stakeholder consensus to reflect a shared vision, designed to support aligned advocacy and engagement efforts
- Sequenced in immediate, short-, mid-, and long-term goals based on current climates and priorities within legislation, state agencies, and the field
- Informed by *artlook® Michigan* data and strategic partnerships

MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Toolkit (in development), will outline how to create policy improvements by defining:

- The roles and responsibilities in making state and district policy improvement.
- The processes and talking points for achieving policy progress at state, regional, and local levels.
- Context and communication tools for specific stakeholder engagements.

Michigan Blueprint of a Quality K-12 Arts Education Program directly supports district policy improvements at the local level. The K-12 Blueprint:

- Promotes arts education access and defines “quality” through the infrastructural necessities for thriving K-12 district arts programming
- Serves as a district level roadmap to the “gold-standard” for what policies and practices school boards and districts should adopt
- The *artlook® Michigan* school data report is to be used as an accompaniment to the Michigan Blueprint of a Quality K-12 Arts Education Program in the continuous improvement process

Professional Learning on arts education policy and practice and beyond, to:

- Orient new arts education advocates and ambassadors
- Educate the next generation of policymakers and arts education champions
- Guide regional leaders in strategic planning and asset mapping
- Model K-12 continuous improvement planning in the arts
- Support school and community arts partners as they learn to collaborate with schools to create meaningful, intentional arts learning opportunities

Michigan's Arts Education Policy and Practice Priorities

An overview of arts education policies (laws or allocations) and practices (processes or protocols) and the responsible decision-makers/change agents.

Content			Change Agent (decision-maker)		
Access	Quality	Policy Item	Legislature	Dept. of Ed.	District
Michigan Arts Education Policy Priorities for 2027					
●	●	Arts Education Funding: • Renew K-5 arts instructional grants • Fund the statewide arts education data collection named in the K-5 arts grant legislative language	●		
●	●	Fund <i>artlook® Michigan</i> , Michigan's state arts education data dashboard with platform features supporting school and community partnerships, professional learning, instruction and assessment, and regional arts education networks.	●	●	●
State Level: Short-Term Arts Education Policy Goals (1–3 years)					
	●	Elementary and Secondary Arts Content Standards (Revisions)		●	
●	●	Share aggregated arts course enrollments and instructor information to support statewide data collection and reporting through MI Creative Potential's <i>artlook® Michigan</i>		●	
●	●	Arts Education Data Collection: District participation in MI Creative Potential's <i>artlook® Michigan</i>	●		●
●	●	Updating language of School Code 380.1278 to include Performing, Fine, and/or Applied Arts	●		
●	●	Full-time Arts Specialist/Consultant at MDE		●	
State Level: Mid-Term Arts Education Policy Goals (3–5 years)					
●	●	Arts Administration Career, Technical, and Engineering (CTE) Pathway		●	

Michigan's Arts Education Policy and Practice Priorities

An overview of arts education policies (laws or allocations) and practices (processes or protocols) and the responsible decision-makers/change agents.

Content			Change Agent (decision-maker)		
Access	Quality	Policy Item	Legislature	Dept. of Ed.	District
	●	Reinstate Dance Endorsement for Certified Teachers		●	
	●	Develop Theatre Endorsement for Certified Teachers		●	
●	●	Arts Education Funding through Spending Tax, Specialized License Plates, or other	●		
●	●	Arts and (not "or") STEAM Diploma Seals (Student Credentialing)		●	●
State Level: Long-Term Arts Education Policy Goals (5–10 years)					
●	●	State School for the Arts/Statewide Arts Programs		●	
State Level Policies to Maintain					
	●	Early Childhood Content Standards		●	
	●	High School Graduation Requirement in the Arts	●	●	●
	●	High School Arts Instructional Requirement		●	●
	●	Music Endorsement for Certified Teachers		●	●
	●	Visual Arts Endorsement for Certified Teachers		●	●
State Level: Policies currently unattainable due to the structure of Michigan's education system					
●	●	Elementary Arts Instructional Requirement			●
●	●	Middle School Arts Instructional Requirement			●

How to Use the Roadmap

Effective advocacy requires an accurate picture of arts education within the larger educational landscape. Grasping Michigan's broader educational infrastructure shapes the feasibility of advocating for arts education policies and practices, increasing the likelihood of implementation.

It is important to note that Michigan is a locally controlled state. This means that while the state legislation provides a framework for district offerings, it is up to local school boards and district administration to decide how the framework components are implemented. Guidance on how to advocate for arts education improvements will be outlined in the MI Creative State Policy and Practice Toolkit.

The **MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Roadmap** is the go-to resource for Michigan's arts education policy priorities, undergirding multidisciplinary advocacy efforts to advance creativity for Michigan's students in the content areas of dance, music, theatre, and visual arts.

In Michigan, literary arts and media arts are housed in other subject matter areas. Therefore, while literary arts and media arts do not currently appear in the Roadmap or the MAEIA resources, they are included in the greater MI Creative Potential work such as the Regional Arts Education Networks and school-community partnerships.

Legislators, advocates, lobbyists, state and district leaders, families and students can use the **Roadmap** to:

- Align advocacy efforts across arts disciplines, associations, and audiences
Persuade decision-makers to act according to what has been collaboratively identified as feasible, according to state data, policy trends and legislative priorities, and state agency preparedness to implement
- Deepen conversations with stakeholders about the needs and opportunities for the arts to contribute to solving academic, social, community, and state challenges
- Elevate Michigan's national ranking in Arts Education Partnership's *ArtScan* 50-state comparison
- Equip our change-makers to prepare students to contribute to our creative economy and vibrant society.

Contextualizing Michigan's Arts Education Status

Michigan's *ArtScan* Results

The Education Commission of the States (ECS) is a national nonprofit supporting decision-makers to create effective education policy in all 50 states and U.S. Territories. Arts Education Partnership (AEP) is the arts component of ECS.

Annually, [AEP publishes *ArtScan*](#), “a clearing house of the latest state policies supporting arts education from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Education Activity” (Arts Education Partnership, 2026), a valuable resource which paints the portrait of how Michigan compares to the rest of the country in arts education policy. Yet given the individual make-up of each state’s educational infrastructure, the accuracy of these indicators can and has been debated.

For each arts education policy area, a state must have a discrete statute to receive credit for that policy indicator in *ArtScan*. In Michigan, some policy items are nested under others, meaning they don’t each have a discrete statute or code. The Michigan Department of Education and MI Creative Potential have worked with AEP to explore these nuances. MI Creative Potential is participating in AEP’s *ArtScan* focus group.

It is the perspective of representatives from the Michigan Department of Education, MI Creative Potential, and MI Creative Potential’s Partners and Affiliates, that Michigan’s arts education policy landscape is stronger than it appears in *ArtScan*, while still needing improvements.

The **MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Roadmap** organizes the priorities in current, short-, mid-, and long-term goals according to Michigan’s educational infrastructure. Both policies and practices are included within the priorities, another distinction from *ArtScan*. As a locally controlled state, there are many items that fall into district policy areas, which inform school practices just as state law informs the practices developed by state agencies.

Together, AEP’s *ArtScan* and MI Creative Potential’s **Roadmap** illustrate Michigan’s strengths and areas of opportunity as well as how Michigan compares to other states in advancing arts education.

Michigan's Arts Education Policies and Practices in Focus

2026–27 Michigan Arts Education Policy Priority

The following arts education policy is the “current ask” in the 2026–27 state legislation budget. If and when opportunity arises for policy and practice items outside of the current request be introduced, they will be pursued.

Policy-making and advocacy are dynamic processes difficult to codify, which is why the Roadmap is offered as guidance for collective impact.

2026–27 Michigan Arts Education Policy Priority		
Policy	State Context	Action
Renew Arts Education Funding: K–5 Arts Grants	Michigan recently allocated \$11M for K–5 Music and Visual Arts Grants. Now in the final year of this work project, renewing grants for new or improving K–5 arts education programs and funding the required arts ed data collection, required by grant recipients, is a high priority.	Advocate state legislators for the renewal of arts education grants and mandated data collection required by the grant recipients.
Funding <i>artlook</i> ® Michigan, Michigan's arts education data dashboard with features supporting school and community partnerships, professional learning, and regional arts education network activities and resources.	The data collection requirement of the K–5 arts grants was originated in a separate section of Michigan's School Aid Budget. Whether tied together or in separate sections, funding the data collection component of the arts grants is critical to longitudinal data supporting growth in arts learning statewide.	Advocate state legislators and state agencies to fund the infrastructural support of developing and maintaining <i>artlook</i> ® Michigan, Michigan's state arts education data dashboard with platform features and developed resources supporting arts instruction, assessment, school and community partnerships, data collection and reporting for strategic planning and accountability, and regional arts education network activities.

Given a recent change in the Michigan Superintendent position and upcoming elections, the following priorities reflect for adjustment and organizational shifts related to prospective and/or concrete leadership change.

Short-term State Goals: 1-3 Years		
Policy	State Context	Action
Update revised school code 380.1278 to include Visual, Performing, or Applied Arts	The revised school code, 380.1278 Core Academic Curriculum, currently contains this sentence: "The recommended model core academic curriculum content standards shall set forth desired learning objectives in math, science, reading, history, geography, economics, American government, and writing for all children at each stage of schooling and be based upon the "Michigan K-12 Program Standards of Quality" to ensure that high academic standards, academic skills, and academic subject matters are built into the instructional goals of all school districts for all children."	Advocate for an update to the legislative language to read: "The recommended model core academic curriculum content standards shall set forth desired learning objectives in math, science, reading, history, geography, economics, American government, visual, performing, or applied arts, and writing for all children at each stage of schooling and be based upon the "Michigan K-12 Program Standards of Quality" to ensure that high academic standards, academic skills, and academic subject matters are built into the instructional goals of all school districts for all children."
Allow Aggregated Arts Education Data Release	Michigan holds but does not share arts education data related to arts course enrollments and instructor information. Currently, this information is entered by districts/schools when uploading data in <i>artlook® Michigan</i> .	Advocate for the release of aggregated enrollment data and instructor information to support the statewide roll-out of <i>artlook® Michigan</i> : • Information on arts course enrollment by school (class name, class number, arts discipline, grades offered to, enrollment) • Instructor information (state unique id number, first name, last name, middle initial, email address, employee identifier, FTE, instructor's primary discipline focus)

Short-term State Goals: 1–3 Years		
Policy	State Context	Action
Require District Arts Education Data Sharing in <i>artlook® Michigan</i>	Michigan collects arts education data through MI Creative Potential's <i>artlook® Michigan</i> platform. The data drives policy improvements, funding, resource development, regional strategy, and district/school continuous improvement planning in the arts. Participation by school districts is a high priority to ensure accountable, responsible, and feasible activity at state, regional, and local levels.	Advocate for required statewide district/school participation in <i>artlook® Michigan</i> , the arts education data dashboard and partnership portal with a professional learning hub and regional arts education networks for cross-sector collaboration and investment in arts education.
Update Elementary and Secondary Arts Education Standards	Michigan's Arts Content Standards (dance, music, theatre, and visual arts) were last updated in 2011. This is consistent with the status of the state standards in other content areas. The National Core Arts Standards are currently in revision.	MI Creative Potential partners and MDE review the revised National Core Arts Standards upon publication. If suitable, Michigan could align the Michigan Content Standards in the Arts (dance, music, theatre, and visual arts).
Reinstate a Full-time Arts Consultant at MDE	As the Michigan Department of Education begins to reinstate disciplinary consultant positions, this should include the arts. Currently, MDE has the arts assigned as a small portion of a consultant's contract. The relationship between this consultant and the arts education field, including MI Creative Potential, has been extensive and highly valuable.	MDE establish a full-time arts specialist or consultant. The relationship between the arts specialist and the arts education field, including MI Creative Potential, continues to be prioritized and supported.

Mid-term State Goals: 3–5 Years

Policy	State Context	Action
Create an Arts Administration CTE Pathway	Michigan does not currently offer an arts related Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathway.	Develop an arts administration CTE pathway to supplement but not supplant district provided arts education offerings that focus on the creative process. An arts administration CTE pathway could focus on the business of being a professional artist and arts leadership with learning in topics such as: • Non-profit leadership • Budget and Grant Writing • Arts Policy and Advocacy • Pedagogy in the Arts • Human Resource Practices for Employees and Contractors
Develop Arts and STEAM Diploma Seals	Michigan does not currently offer such a credential for students. We know this practice is attractive to bipartisan legislators. More exploration is needed. STEAM is not a supplant for high quality arts education programming and would not be pursued as an either/or alternative to an arts diploma seal.	Monitor state activity related to this policy indicator. Annually review Michigan's status in developing student endorsements and contribute meaningfully to the development of a process for the arts.
Reinstate the Dance Endorsement	Certified educators with any endorsement at the grade level the course is offered may currently teach dance. Alternative staffing options are also offered.	Advocate for the reinstatement of the Dance Endorsement. More clarity is needed to address university course load concerns and the prospective use of the National Dance Education Organization's exam as a credentialing assessment. An intermediary step includes defining professional dance experience and training for districts to apply

Mid-term State Goals: 3–5 Years		
Policy	State Context	Action
Develop a Theatre Endorsement	Certified educators with any endorsement at the grade level the course is offered may currently teach theatre. Alternative staffing options are also offered.	Advocate for the development of a Theatre Endorsement. More clarity is needed on the barriers to this action. An intermediary step may include defining professional theatre experience and training for districts to apply in local policy regarding the hiring of highly qualified theatre professionals to teach theatre courses.
Establish Sustainable Funding Pathways for Arts Education	Other states and metropolitan areas have models of using taxes on products, entertainment tickets, and special license plates to fund arts education. Michigan could explore this option as well.	More research is needed to determine if and how these pathways could be implemented in Michigan.

Long-term State Goals: 5–10 Years		
Policy	State Context	Action
Establish a State School for Arts/Statewide Programs	Other states have authorized or established a state school for the arts or statewide arts programs (see <i>ArtScan</i>).	More research is needed to determine if and how this could be implemented in Michigan and if it would be of interest across arts education stakeholders.

Status of Additional Michigan Arts Education Policies

The following table illustrates policies that are either currently in existence and require monitoring and maintenance and policies which are not currently feasible given Michigan's status of a locally-controlled system.

State Level Policies to Maintain		
Policy	State Context	Action
Early Childhood Education Standards	State adopted early childhood or pre-K content or performance standards for any disciplines of arts education (dance, music, theatre, visual arts)	Michigan holds the Michigan early Childhood Standards of Quality (2022).
Arts Education Instructional Requirement: High School	The <i>Michigan Merit Curriculum</i> includes an arts graduation requirement rather than having required courses listed in state statutes. The intention of the phrasing in state statute is to encourage all arts categories; fine, performing, and applied arts. Michigan does not have this check mark on <i>ArtScan</i> due to that stipulation in the language. MDE has petitioned for this to be updated in <i>ArtScan</i> and approval was not granted.	The Michigan arts education community agrees that this policy is in place despite not being represented as such on <i>ArtScan</i> . That said, advocacy may be required to sustain exclusive visual and performing arts coursework, continuing to reject recent proposals to include applied arts courses as replacements of visual and performing arts courses.
Arts Requirement for High School Graduation	The <i>Michigan Merit Curriculum</i> includes an arts graduation requirement rather than having required courses listed in state statutes. The intention of the phrasing in state statute is to encourage all arts categories; visual, performing, and applied arts.	Maintain arts graduation requirement the Michigan Merit Curriculum. Annually monitor education policies related to this indicator to preserve high-quality arts instruction.
Music and Visual Arts Endorsements	Michigan has endorsements, corresponding standards, and preparation programs for both music and visual arts programs.	Monitor education policy related to this indicator.

Policies Not Currently Attainable at the State Level		
Policy	State Context	Action
Elementary Arts Instructional Requirement	Michigan does not have an elementary instructional requirement for any content area, including language, math, science, and social studies at the state level.	Advocate for an elementary arts instructional requirement at the local district level.
Middle School Arts Instructional Requirement	Michigan does not have a middle school instructional requirement for any content area including language arts, math, science, and social studies at the state level.	Advocate for a middle school arts instructional requirement at the local district level.

ISD and District Arts Education Policy Priorities						
The following arts education policies and practices are supported through the <i>Michigan Blueprint of a Quality K-12 Arts Education Program</i>, developed by the Michigan Assessment Consortium on behalf of the Michigan Department of Education. Definitions of these items, along with how to advocate for local implementation, can be found in the <i>MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Toolkit</i> (in development).						
Content			Change Agent (decision-maker)			
Access	Quality	Policy Item	ISD	School Board	District	School
●	●	Establish an arts specialist at the Intermediate School District	●			
●	●	Offer an arts administration CTE pathway	●			
●	●	Participate in Regional Arts Ed Networks	●		●	●
●	●	Arts Education Data Collection: District participation in MI Creative Potential's <i>artlook</i> ® <i>Michigan</i> (for eligible schools)			●	●
	●	Hire certified educators endorsed in the arts discipline they teach		●	●	
●	●	For dance and theatre, hire certified educators with professional experience and training in the discipline (will be outlined in the Toolkit)			●	●

ISD and District Arts Education Policy Priorities

The following arts education policies and practices are supported through the *Michigan Blueprint of a Quality K-12 Arts Education Program*, developed by the Michigan Assessment Consortium on behalf of the Michigan Department of Education. Definitions of these items, along with how to advocate for local implementation, can be found in the *MI Creative State Arts Education Policy and Practice Toolkit* (in development).

Content			Change Agent (decision-maker)			
Access	Quality	Policy Item	ISD	School Board	District	School
●	●	Arts Education Instructional Requirement: Elementary Level		●	●	
●	●	Arts Education Instructional Requirement: Middle School		●	●	
●	●	Arts Requirement Alternatives for High School Graduation		●	●	
	●	Arts Education Assessment Requirement: Common Assessment in the Arts			●	
●	●	Arts Requirement for Non-Arts Teacher Professional Learning			●	
●	●	District and School Continuous Improvement Planning in the Arts			●	●
	●	Arts Assessment Scores to be used in Demonstrating Educator Effectiveness			●	
●	●	Professional Learning in the Arts	●		●	●
●	●	Professional Arts Partnerships: Artist Residencies	●		●	●
●	●	Professional Arts Partnerships: Out-of-School Time Arts Programming	●		●	●
●	●	Professional Arts Partners as Guest Teachers			●	●

Resources

Americans for the Arts

americansforthearts.org

Arts Education Alliance

nafme.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/aea-collective-vision.pdf

Arts Education Partnership

aep-arts.org

ArtScan At-A-Glance

aep-arts.org/artscan

Cultural Advocacy Network

canmichigan.org

Education Commission of the States

ecs.org

Educator Effectiveness for Arts Educators

maeia-artsednetwork.org/demonstrate-effectiveness-in-educator-evaluation

MI Creative Potential

micreativepotential.org

MI Creative State Report 2024

maeia-artsednetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2024-MI-Creative-State-Report.pdf

Michigan Arts and Culture Council

michiganbusiness.org/industries/macc

Michigan Arts Education Instruction and Assessment (MAEIA)

maeia-artsednetwork.org

Michigan Assessment Consortium

michiganassessmentconsortium.org

Michigan Blueprint of a Quality K-12 Arts Education Program

maeia-artsednetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/MAC-Blueprint-Document-2016-May112016.pdf

Michigan Department of Education

michigan.gov/mde

Michigan Department of Education: Educator Certification

michigan.gov/mde/services/ed-serv/ed-cert

Michigan Education Guarantee, Launch Michigan

launchmichigan.org/meg

Michigan Merit Curriculum

michigan.gov/mde/services/academic-standards/mmc

Michigan Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts Course/Credit Requirements

michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/Academic-Standards/Arts_Course_Credit.pdf?rev=5004f9fe1e264efebb1ff02466d048f7&hash=C347EED46F6B-922B0378C5B023343710

Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan

michigan.gov/mde/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/top10/top_10_mi_strategic_ed_plan_promising_practices_1_pager.pdf

National Assembly of State Arts Associations

nasaa-arts.org

National Association for Music Educator's MAESTRO Act Resources

nafme.org/resource/strengthening-arts-education-at-the-state-level-maestro-act-resources

State Education Agencies Departments of Arts Education

seadae.org

References

Arts Education Partnership (2026, May). www.aep-arts.org

Credits and Acknowledgments

MI Creative Potential Leadership

- Dr. Kathryn Dewsbury-White, CEO of Michigan Assessment Consortium
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