

**Recommendations for Arts Education
“Five Strategic Recommendations for Maximizing Opportunity”**

**District Wide Support for Arts Education
Through A “District Arts Team”**

A structure some districts have found beneficial in supporting the district's arts education is the development of a District Arts Team. District Arts Teams, DAT, can support a continual and active focus on arts education within a district and its schools or if a school level arts team a school and its arts education program. While the responsibility for the curriculum, assessment, and teaching of the arts rests with the district and school members, an effective arts team can be additional support for arts education. The teams make up should include members who can provide leadership, engage in research, devote time, offer informed advice and engage in on-going advocacy. The team's role includes keeping itself informed on all matters related to and affecting arts education and coordinating the advocacy efforts for arts education for the district (and/or school). It is best to have the team comprised of contributing members, none wearing more than “one hat” and selecting its lead or coordinator from among its members.

District Arts teams represent the all of the schools within the district. Representation on such district arts teams could include:

- District Arts Administrator or Director of Curriculum and Instruction
- School Board Member
- Principal
- Single Subject Arts Teachers
- Multiple Subject Teachers
- Higher Education representative
- Parent Organization representative
- School Site Parent
- High School Student
- Community Arts Organization Representative
- Foundation or Philanthropy Representative
- Business Community Member
- City Council Member
- Legislative Representative

For very small districts or schools operating on their own without a district arts team, they could form a team with close approximation as is possible to the list above.

A large district may determine that individual school sites teams are necessary. The district arts team would then have one person from each school site team on the district arts team.

Representation on a school site arts teams could include:

- Principal
- Arts Administrator
- Multiple Subject Teachers
- Single Subject Arts Teachers serving the school
- Parent
- Student (for middle and high school)
- Business Community Member
- Foundation or Philanthropy Representative
- Community Arts Organization Representative

SOURCES: Visual and Performing Arts Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten through Grade Twelve, 2004. Arts Education Program Toolkit, 2001. Both available through CDE Press.