Arts Learning Task Force
Meeting Minutes • September 18, 2014 • GaDOE, Suite 2056


10:20 Welcome

Karen Paty, Executive Director, Georgia Council for the Arts, welcomed the Arts Learning Task Force members to our second meeting. Allen Bell, Arts Education Manager, Georgia Council for the Arts, also welcomed the Arts Learning Task Force members.

10:25 Overview of the Department of Education’s Perspective and Policies on Arts Learning

Helen Rice, Chair of the State Board of Education, spoke to the Task Force members about the connection between arts education and 21st-century skills, and arts education priorities for the State Board of Education.

Pam Smith, Director of Curriculum and Instruction at the Georgia Department of Education, delivered a presentation on arts education policies in Georgia, including rules related to arts courses, CTAE pathways, Georgia Performance Standards, high school graduation requirements, College and Career Ready Performance Index, Student Learning Objectives, and Creative Writing.

11:20 Guest Speakers

Kelli Young, Assistant Division Director, Professional Standards Commission
Chuck McCampbell, Chief Information Officer, Professional Standards Commission

Kelli Young gave a presentation on Certification Requirements for arts teachers, including details on the Permit Certificate process, and the Induction Certificate process for Pathway 4 and Pathway 2. She also discussed the role of RESA’s and the GaTAPP program. She answered Task Force member questions related to teacher certification and pay scales.

Chuck McCampbell gave a presentation on Workforce and Certification Data for Arts and Music, including details on available data sources, basic certification statistics for arts educators, and workforce statistics for arts educators. He answered Task Force member questions related to transitions in the field of teaching and transitions in the delivery of professional development.
12:30 Lunch Break

1:20 Resume Discussion

The discussion began with considerations for the next Arts Learning Task Force meetings in October at North Gwinnett High School and in November in Savannah.

Discussion then continued regarding arts instruction as a career pathway, professional development for arts educators, arts education in Pre-K, arts integration, sequential arts education, and geographic gaps in delivering arts education.

During the course of the meeting Arts Learning Task Force member discussions for improving arts learning in Georgia included:

- Requiring an arts credit for high school graduation.
- Researching how other states handle requirements for arts credits for high school graduation.
- Requiring an arts credit for college admission.
- Researching school schedules, flexibility, and how best to accommodate courses in the arts during the school day.
- Understanding the value of after school programs in the arts.
- Educating parents about the value of arts learning.
- Communicating that SLO’s for non-tested courses, including courses in the arts, can be a part of the system of measurement at the district level.
- Creating a certification process for dance and drama.
- Understanding and communicating arts education as a desired career pathway and as a High Demand Career.
- Creating a Fine Arts Coordinator position at the DOE.
- Beginning arts education as early as possible, as early as Pre-K.
- Considering arts integration whole school reform models and best practices.
- Considering how to fill geographic gaps in delivering arts learning throughout the state.
- Understanding and improving the delivery of professional development for arts educators, including workshops, conferences, mentoring, tutoring, and pre-service learning.

1:55 Closing Information

Allen Bell reviewed information on the next two meetings, proposed themes for discussion at future meetings, and potential working groups.

2:00 Meeting Adjourned