

2006 - 2007 Visual and Performing Arts and Physical Education Funding
Five Strategic Recommendations
For Maximizing Opportunity

The educational communities for the visual and performing arts and physical education in California have collaborated in the development of five strategic recommendations for maximizing the opportunity to provide high-quality instruction in physical education and the visual and performing arts for all California's students. The 2006-2007 California budget presents a historic opportunity for local school districts to make strategic investments with these funds.

Both physical education and the visual and performing arts have long been established as educational priorities for California's public schools. Education code sections 51210 and 51220 communicates the course of study for students in grades 1-12 and identifies student access to learning in the five content areas; music, dance, theatre, visual art, and physical education, as essential for all students. These instructional programs are legally designated to take place during the school day and be delivered by a credentialed teacher. They are not provided through, or replaced by athletic programs, community programs, assemblies, field trips, after school events or short-term classroom programs.

Together, the professional communities support the investment of available funds in a responsible and careful manner; and respect the significant contributions that high-quality instruction in **both** visual and performing arts **and** physical education make for our children and youth. The recommendations made here place student learning at the center of the opportunity, embrace respect and recognize needs for both physical education and visual and performing arts, communicate the essence of long term investment, and caution against "quick fix" solutions.

There is acknowledgement that the 2006-2007 funding will just begin the process needed to build the infrastructure for standards-based physical education and visual and performing arts education, and that the key to the long lasting change will be the careful expenditure on the infrastructure needed to support continued development of district-based programs over time.

California Art Education Association * California Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance
California Association for Music Education * California Dance Education Association
*** California Educational Theatre Association**
California Subject Matter Projects: The California Arts Project and The California Physical Education-Health Project
Representatives from the University of California and California State University