



FIGHTING FOR EQUITABLE ARTS EDUCATION SINCE 1983

April 2, 2024

Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Chris Reykdal  
234 8th Ave SE  
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Superintendent Reykdal,

The staff and Board of Directors at ArtsEd Washington would like to **thank you and your team** for your contributions during the 2024 legislative session. With our focus on equity in arts education, we want to specifically offer our appreciation for the following: the funding increases toward ample, equitable, and stable public education; the capital investments in safe and healthy schools, especially for and distressed schools, small districts, and Tribal Compact Schools; and the improvements toward equity in decision making. These improvements will also certainly impact the equitability of arts education in our districts.

As we enter into a new era of education in our post-COVID world, we believe students will benefit more than ever from meaningful arts access, including not only the skills and artistic processes they experience but also the welcoming and supportive environments that are often both a cause and a product of quality and sequential arts programs.

Because of this elevated importance, we also encourage OSPI to **keep the arts in conversations, and include arts education leaders when discussing future policies and initiatives**. For example, the arts will be uniquely impacted by decisions about transportation and technology; and the arts can be uniquely impactful in supporting social-emotional learning, and student mental health. By keeping the arts in our decision-making conversations, we ensure more well-rounded and informed decisions.

Finally, we at ArtsEd Washington would like to offer our support with your planning and facilitating of the **upcoming Superintendent's High School Art Show**. We have historically supported this incredible program in various ways, and we understand that this will be a heavy lift while hiring and onboarding a new Associate Director of the Arts at OSPI, so we are here to collaborate and support your team as needed.

Thank you for your support of our student artists, near and far throughout Washington.

With gratitude,

Executive Director Miranda Hein, NBCT, M.Ed.  
and the ArtsEd Washington Board of Directors  
[office@artsedwashington.org](mailto:office@artsedwashington.org)

CC:

Courtney Clark, Board President

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