

The Arts Mastery Based Credit

The board recognizes the value of providing students an education in the arts, including the disciplines of dance, media arts, music, theater, and visual arts. The arts engage all learning styles, and they lead to powerful and life-long habits, such as creativity, collaboration, communication, and critical thinking. The arts provide students with keys to understanding the world around them and strategies for learning, interpreting, and expressing their thoughts. Students may further develop their art skills through independent activities and programs. The district encourages students and their families to take advantage of any learning opportunities in the arts available to them.

The district will encourage students to learn the arts effectively at a high level of proficiency.

The district also recognizes the importance of allowing students to learn at their own pace, and the educational benefits that can be gained by giving students the opportunity to demonstrate competency of skills, proficiency of standards, and mastery of concepts.

As described in the procedures, the district will award credits in the arts to students based on demonstrated mastery/proficiency across a range of skills in the arts.

To ensure cultural responsiveness and equity in awarding mastery-based credit, the district will collect and annually review disaggregated data to see which subgroups of students are receiving mastery-based credit. If disproportionality is found, the district will take appropriate actions to ensure equitable access to these crediting opportunities.

Legal References:

RCW 28A.230.090, High school graduation requirements or equivalencies - Reevaluation of graduation requirements - Review and authorization of proposed changes - Credit for courses taken before attending high school - Postsecondary credit equivalencies
WAC 180-51-050, High school credit - Definition
WAC 180-51-051 Procedure for granting students mastery-based credit

Cross References:

Policy 2410, High School Graduation Requirements

Management Resources:

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