

Alexandria Township's Visual and Performing Art's Curriculum Philosophy Statement

The vision for Visual and Performing Arts in Alexandria Township is for participation of every student in a quality arts program, taught through a balanced curriculum, based on National Standards with school and community collaboration. This vision allows students to experience music and art through the study of the social, cultural, historical and individual aspects that shape the creation of the arts. The Visual and Performing Arts are a reflection of human values, beliefs, aspirations and achievements. They play a vital role in revealing the world around us.

To achieve this vision, the curriculum in Visual and Performing Arts must

- Provide a basic foundation, which includes the elements and principles of the arts.
- Provide opportunities for the development of skills in observing, listening, describing, thinking, promoting self-expression, creating, performing and interpreting, and critiquing the arts.
- Provide meaningful, creative experiences for students to develop a broad understanding and foster an appreciation of the arts.
- Offer a variety of multicultural activities to gain insight into how others express their unique and personal values, beliefs, aspirations, historical perspective, and achievements through the arts.
- Offer, when appropriate, an integrated curriculum approach which links the visual and performing arts instruction with other subjects to enrich the learning process across the disciplines.

We will know we have achieved this vision for curriculum in Visual and Performing

Arts when

- Students have developed an appreciation of the arts by deepening their understanding of the social, cultural, and historical context of the arts.
- Students can make connections and apply new knowledge gained in the arts to life situations
- Students have successfully used the arts to express their values, beliefs, aspirations, and achievements.
- Students can creatively experience life skills, critical thinking, collaborative partnerships, effective communication, interpretation, and application through the arts.
- Students can recognize the arts reflective of the past, inclusive of the present, and indicative of the future.