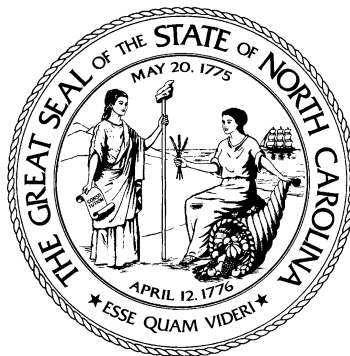


# **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON ARTS EDUCATION**



***REPORT TO THE  
2009 GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF NORTH CAROLINA***

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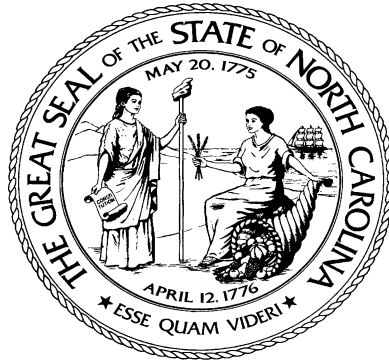
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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON ARTS EDUCATION



November 18, 2008

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE 2009 GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Attached for your consideration is the report of the Joint Select Committee on Arts Education established by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-19.6(a1), Rule 31 of the Rules of the Senate of the 2007 General Assembly, and Rule 26(a) of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the 2007 General Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Representative Becky Carney  
Co-Chair

---

Senator Katie Dorsett  
Co-Chair

## **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON ARTS EDUCATION**

### **MEMBERSHIP LIST**

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## **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON ARTS EDUCATION**

### **President Pro Tem's Appointments**

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Tempore,  
North Carolina Senate**



**Joe Hackney  
Speaker,  
North Carolina  
House of  
Representatives**

Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-1096

## **Joint Select Committee on Arts Education**

**Section 1.** The **Joint Select Committee on Arts Education** (hereinafter "Committee") is established by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives pursuant to G.S. 120-19.6(a1), Rule 31 of the Rules of the Senate of the 2007 General Assembly, and Rule 26(a) of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the 2007 General Assembly.

**Section 2.** The Committee consists of 16 members. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint 8 members of the Committee, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint 8 members of the Committee. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint a co-chair from among their respective appointees. The Committee and the terms of the members shall expire when the Committee submits a final report to the General Assembly. Members serve at the pleasure of the appointing officer.

### **President Pro Tempore Appointments**

Senator Katie Dorsett, Co-Chair  
Senator Linda Garrou  
Senator Jean Preston  
Senator Joe Sam Queen  
Senator Jerry Tillman  
Ms. Geneive Farmer, Wake County  
Ms. Debra S. Pylypiw, Onslow County  
Ms. Karen Wells, Wake County

### **Speaker Appointments**

Representative Becky Carney, Co-Chair  
Representative Alma Adams  
Representative Susan C. Fisher  
Representative Rick Glazier  
Representative Mark K. Hilton  
Representative Maggie Jeffus  
Representative Linda P. Johnson  
Mr. David zum Brunnen, Chatham County

**Section 3.** The Committee shall study the current status of arts education in North Carolina and shall evaluate the impact of requiring one credit in arts education for graduation from a North Carolina public high school. Although the Committee may review any other issue it deems relevant, the Committee shall consider:

1. The role of arts education in preparing North Carolina children to compete in a global economy, including arts education and the development of a creative work force, arts education and international understanding, and arts education and impact on math and science learning.
2. The role of arts education in advancing North Carolina's educational goals, including arts education and increased literacy skills, arts education and improved student performance, arts education and social and character development, and arts education impact on youth at risk.

**Section 4.** The Committee shall meet upon the call of its co-chairs. A quorum of the Committee is a majority of its members. No action may be taken except by a majority vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

**Section 5.** The Committee, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and Article 5A of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes. The Committee may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services, as provided by G.S. 120-32.02.

**Section 6.** Members of the Committee shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowance as provided in G.S. 120-3.1, 138-5 and 138-6, as appropriate.

**Section 7.** The expenses of the Committee shall be considered expenses incurred for the joint operation of the General Assembly. An initial allocation of \$35,000 shall be provided to the Committee from funds appropriated to the General Assembly.

**Section 8.** The Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and clerical staff to assist the Committee in its work. The Director of Legislative Assistants of the House of Representatives and the Director of Legislative Assistants of the Senate shall assign clerical support staff to the Committee.

**Section 9.** The Committee may meet at various locations around the State in order to promote greater public participation in its deliberations. The Legislative Services Commission shall grant adequate meeting space to the Committee in the State Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building.

**Section 10.** The Committee may submit an interim report on the results of its study, including any proposed legislation, to the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives, on or before May 1, 2008, by filing a copy of the report with the Office of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Legislative Library. The Committee shall submit a final report on the results of its study, including any proposed legislation, to the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives, on or before December 31, 2008, by filing a copy of the report with the Office of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Legislative Library. The Committee shall terminate on December 31, 2008, or upon the filing of its final report, whichever occurs first.

Effective this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2008.



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Marc Basnight  
President Pro Tempore of the Senate



---

Joe Hackney  
Speaker of the House of Representatives



## **COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS**

The Joint Select Committee on Arts Education held 6 meetings.

**March 27, 2008**

### **Arts Education in North Carolina Public Schools**

Helga Fasciano, Section Chief, K-12 Program Areas  
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Christie Lynch, Consultant, Arts Education  
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

### **Arts Education – A Regional Perspective**

Mary Fulton, Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States (ECS)

**April 17, 2008**

### **A+ Schools**

Gerry Howell, Executive Director  
A+ Schools Program  
UNC Greensboro

### **Future Core Curriculum and The Arts**

Rebecca Garland, Executive Director  
State Board of Education

**May 1, 2008**

### **Effective Leadership in Schools**

Gene Bottoms, Senior Vice President  
Southern Regional Education Board

**September 23, 2008**

### **The Impact of Arts Education in the Public Schools**

Holden Thorp, Chancellor  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Bill McNeal, Executive Director  
North Carolina Association of School Administrators

John Dornan, Executive Director  
Public School Forum of North Carolina

**October 22, 2008**

**The Impact of Arts Education in the Public Schools**

Jane Austen Behan, Arts Education Specialist  
Pitt County Public Schools

Dr. Tom Moncrief, Arts Education Coordinator  
Union County Public Schools

Mary Regan, Executive Director  
North Carolina Arts Council

David Chambless Woters, President and CEO  
North Carolina Symphony

Lawrence Wheeler, Director  
North Carolina Museum of Art

Paige Sayles, Chair, Board of Education  
Franklin County Schools

Al Cooper, Chair, Board of Education  
Warren County Schools

Dr. Alan Mabe, Vice President, Academic Planning and University-School Programs  
The University of North Carolina

**November 18, 2008**

**Adoption of Report**

## **SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Joint Select Committee on Arts Education**

**March 27, 2008 – 10:00 am – Room 643, Legislative Office Building**

Mary Fulton, Policy Analyst, Education Commission of the States (ECS), presented an overview of the regional perspective of arts education. She pointed out that North Carolina, along with Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, South Dakota, West Virginia, and Wisconsin, has joined the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, which can be a resource in looking at a connection between schools and the arts. She talked about what states, specifically southeastern states, are doing as it relates to arts and education.

Helga Fasciano, Section Chief, K-12 Program Areas, Department of Public Instruction, spoke about Arts Education in North Carolina public schools. She talked about the State's Basic Education Plan that was implemented in 1985. She said this plan includes the Arts as one of the core academic subjects and further defines how arts education is to be implemented. She mentioned that another policy that impacts arts education is the North Carolina Graduation Project.

Christie Lynch, Consultant, Arts Education, Department of Public Instruction, spoke next about a study that identifies some relationship with art education and keeping kids in school. She mentioned the increased attendance and retention for those students who participate in art programs.

There were questions from committee members and some committee discussion around the various issues and presentations.

### **Joint Select Committee on Arts Education**

**April 17, 2008 – 10:00 am – Room 1228, Legislative Building**

Rebecca Garland, Executive Director, State Board of Education, presented on the Future Core Curriculum and the Arts. She shared with the committee the State Board of Education's Future Ready Core, which contains the course requirements that all students must have in order to earn a North Carolina high school diploma.

Gerry Howell, Executive Director, A+ Schools Program, presented the big picture of the A+ Schools Program. In her presentation, she talked about the history of the program, how the program has sustained for the past 13 years, and how the program addresses the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. Kevin Warner, Program Director, spoke about the A+ Schools curriculum and how it is integrated into the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. Next, Barbara Parker, Principal, shared her experience in a school of 408 elementary students using the A+ Program.

There were questions from committee members and some committee discussion around the various issues and presentations.

**Joint Select Committee on Arts Education**  
**May 1, 2008 – 10:00 am – Room 1228, Legislative Building**

Gene Bottoms, Senior Vice President, Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), spoke about effective leadership in schools. He said that SREB has worked to improve the arts in high schools and get involved with school leaders. He mentioned that North Carolina, like most southern states, does not have a shortage of certified school leaders, but has a shortage of qualified schools leaders who can turn schools around. He said that a highly qualified school principal is the key to improving schools. SREB looked at principals who really turned schools around, and Mr. Bottoms talked about some of the qualities that these principals shared. He also talked specifically about some of the things that North Carolina has done and has not done regarding qualified school leaders. Next, he highlighted some things that other states are doing regarding new standards in leadership preparation and evaluation.

There were questions from committee members and some committee discussion around the various issues and presentation.

**Joint Select Committee on Arts Education**  
**September 23, 2008 – 10:00 am – Room 1128, Legislative Building**

Holden Thorp, Chancellor, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, spoke about his lifetime participation in the arts and science and the importance of the Arts in the high school curriculum as a way of producing more innovators.

Bill McNeal, Executive Director, North Carolina Association of School Administrators, spoke about the impact of Arts Education through the eyes of Frank L. Barnes' Wizard of Oz. He also spoke about the importance of Arts Education as it relates to some of the things employers said they need of their employees in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Some of the things mentioned included being able to work in collaborative groups, having a willingness to take risks, having creative problem solving skills, interpersonal skills, and presentation skills. He said he hopes the Committee will consider: 1) revising curriculum and teaching training in order to incorporate the Arts, 2) increasing funding for arts programs and educators, and 3) creating a public-private partnership to promote creativity in the schools.

John Dornan, Executive Director, Public School Forum of North Carolina, spoke next about the impact of Arts Education in the public schools. He talked about the unintended consequences of North Carolina's statewide testing program, No Child Left Behind, and other programs. He said in looking back at the curriculum, particularly at the elementary level, those things that are not getting tested are getting squeezed out, Arts Education being one of those programs. He urged the Committee to be part of a voice for balance in the curriculum, with Arts Education being a major piece of it.

There were questions from committee members and some committee discussion around the various issues and presentations.

**Joint Select Committee on Arts Education  
October 22, 2008 – 1:00 pm – Room 1228, Legislative Building**

Jane Austen Behan, Arts Education Specialist, Pitt County Public Schools, spoke on the impact of Arts Education in the public schools and expressed being in favor of having an arts credit as a requirement for high school graduation.

Tom Moncrief, Arts Education Coordinator, Union County Public Schools, spoke next about the importance of the Arts to a comprehensive education and he said that requiring an arts credit would make a complete student.

Mary Regan, Executive Director, North Carolina Arts Council, spoke about the importance of the Arts to educating children. She mentioned two programs, the Cartwheels Program and the Junior Appalachian Musicians (JAM) Program, that focus on enhancing what students learn in the classroom.

David Chambless Worters, President and CEO, North Carolina Symphony, spoke about the impact of Arts Education in the schools. He said that Arts Education is a fundamental in that students not only learn discipline and respect, but also creativity. He also stated that Arts Education is important and essential to developing a whole child.

Lawrence Wheeler, Director, North Carolina Museum of Art, spoke about the importance of Arts Education in high school. He said Arts Education is about teaching students that solving problems takes persistence and it is about helping students learn productive habits of thinking. He also said that Arts Education is an investment and recommends it as a requirement in North Carolina.

Paige Sayles, Chair, Board of Education, Franklin County Schools, spoke next about the importance of Arts Education in the schools. She said that one of the benefits of having arts education is that its teachings help with twenty-first century skills. She also said that art embraces all cultures and fosters a sense of global awareness. She said that she recommends requiring an arts credit for graduation, but would also want the funding for such a statewide mandate to be available.

Al Cooper, Chair, Board of Education, Warren County Schools, presented the Committee with an unfavorable opinion of mandating an arts education credit as a requirement for high school graduation. He said that in Warren County, Arts Education already exists in elementary and middle schools. He also said that students in high schools take band, chorus, drama and other arts classes as electives.

Alan Mabe, Vice President, Academic Planning and University-School Programs, The University of North Carolina, spoke next about the completion of the UNC Tomorrow Survey, which involved a commission of distinguished citizens and members of the Board of Governors. The commission went around the State to discuss concerns and the subject of the Arts continued to come up for discussion. He stated that the UNC campuses are reviewing their general education programs and have, in the past, paid a lot of attention to the Arts and are aware of the impact the subject has on the students.

There were questions from committee members and some committee discussion around the various issues and presentations.

**Joint Select Committee on Arts Education****November 18, 2008 – 10:00 am – Room 1228, Legislative Building**

The meeting opened with a discussion about the draft of the final report of the Committee. Senator Dorsett acknowledged revisions in the Committee's findings and recommendations. The changes were adopted with one objection to the changes by Representative Hilton.

Senator Dorsett introduced Leanne Winner, Director of Governmental Relations, North Carolina School Boards' Association, and Cathy Russell, Chair, Chatham County Board of Education, to express their concerns regarding the Committee's findings and recommendations.

Mr. David zum Brunnen was unable to attend the meeting but sent written remarks to the Committee chairs in support of the final report.

After some discussion, the Committee adopted the report.

## **COMMITTEE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Joint Select Committee on Arts Education makes the following findings and recommendations to the 2009 General Assembly.

The Committee finds that the Basic Education Plan (BEP) requires, to the extent that State funds are available, that the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Arts Education be available to all students in Kindergarten through Grade 12, and be required of all students through Grade 5. Students in the middle grades would have dance, music, theatre arts and visual arts available to them and be required to take at least one each year. At the high school level, the arts would be available as electives. However, the BEP has not been fully funded and the Standard Course of Study for Arts Education has been implemented as funding had been available.

The Committee further finds that, beginning with the freshman class of 2009, the Future-Ready Core Curriculum will require students to take 6 electives, two of which must be a combination of Career Technical Education, Arts or Second Language.

The Committee also finds that curricula are being narrowed as schools focus more on reading, mathematics, science and technology, and the arts are becoming extracurricular rather than an essential part of the curriculum. However, studies, anecdotal evidence and observations have identified several benefits of providing all students with access to high quality opportunities to learn through the arts. The arts can positively impact students' academic, thinking and social skills.

Increasingly, students must compete with individuals from around the world and be prepared for a more complex and rapidly-changing life and work environment. The Committee finds that several of the skills students will need for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century are developed and strengthened through exposure to the arts. These 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills include demonstrating originality and inventiveness, framing, analyzing and synthesizing information to solve problems and answer questions, and articulating thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively.

The Committee recommends that the State Board of Education shall modify the high school graduation requirements to include one required credit of arts education. See attached DRAFT LEGISLATION: 2009-LE-2[v.4].

The Committee strongly recommends continued funding for the A+ Schools Program, a whole-school reform model that views the arts as fundamental to teaching and learning in all subjects.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 2009

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D

BILL DRAFT 2009-LE-2 [v.4] (04/10)

(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)

11/14/2008 9:05:51 AM

Short Title: Require Arts Educ. Credit for Graduation.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT DIRECTING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO REQUIRE ONE  
ARTS EDUCATION CREDIT FOR GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL AS  
RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON ARTS  
EDUCATION.

Whereas, North Carolina's economy needs a workforce that is not only  
educated but able to excel in innovation and creativity; and

Whereas, arts education has been demonstrated to increase the skills and  
knowledge required for graduation; and

Whereas, arts education can close achievement gaps, improve academic skills  
in reading and language development, and support the math and science curriculum; and

Whereas, arts education accelerates student performance, teaches discipline  
and teamwork, improves self-esteem, and gives students a reason to stay in school; and

Whereas, arts education provides a comprehensive, rigorous, and balanced  
education for all children in North Carolina's schools; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** The State Board of Education shall modify the State high  
school graduation requirements to include one required credit in arts education. The  
credit must be earned in one of the four disciplines in arts education: theatre, music,  
visual arts, or dance. The course must be taken at the high school level and must be  
taught by a licensed arts educator using the standard course of study.

The State Board of Education shall implement this high school arts education  
requirement beginning with students entering the ninth grade in 2009.

**SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.



