

Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education (letterhead)
POSITION STATEMENT ON SCHEDULING OF REMEDIATION
AND ITS IMPACT ON FINE ARTS INSTRUCTION

VCFAE supports and recognizes the need for academic remediation as appropriate for struggling students. Currently, students selected for remediation are frequently removed from fine arts instruction for 9 weeks, a semester or, in some cases, for an entire year. In other instances, students are pulled from fine arts classes at irregular intervals thus interrupting their regular course of study.

Virginia students should receive sequenced fine arts instruction based on dance, music, theaters arts and visual arts Standards of Learning. Students who drop in and out of classes miss significant instructional time and are at a distinct disadvantage learning new material while struggling to make up for lost time in their fine arts classes.

The VCFAE recommends consideration be given to:

- Instructional time must allow for student success in meeting state and local dance, music, theater arts, and visual arts standards,
- Regularly scheduled class periods should allow for quality student learning by providing sufficient instructional time to develop artistic literacy through the processes of production, performance, reflection, and assessment.
- In order to support student achievement, remediation for individuals or groups of students should not be scheduled in a way that disrupts sequential instruction in other areas of instruction.

Research suggests that students who participate in quality fine arts programs are more engaged, attend school on a more regular basis, develop leadership capacity and graduate at a higher rate. Students who have participated in fine arts classes are more likely to attend college and seek professional degrees. This is especially seen in students at risk. Students involved in the arts develop creative problem solving skills, exercise perseverance and persistence, work collaboratively, and take responsibility for learning independently. VCFAE believes that all students benefit from sequential fine arts instruction uninterrupted by remediation pull outs.

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