



Date: June 19, 2024 **Agenda Item:** 8.2

To: Board of Trustees

From: Shawna Warren, Superintendent

Originator(s): Jonathan Konrad, Deputy Superintendent, Education Services
Kari Morgan, Division Principal
Dan Stephen, Division Principal

Governance Policy: [Board Policy 225: Role of the Board](#)
[Board Policy 700: Superintendent of Schools](#)

Additional Reference: [Programs of Study; Alberta Education](#)

Assurance Domain: Student Growth & Achievement
Teaching & Leading
Learning Supports
Local & Societal

Superintendent Leadership Quality Standard (SLQS)
SLQS Competencies ([SLOS](#) / [Board Policy 700](#)):
Building Effective Relationships
Visionary Leadership

Subject: **Fine Arts Report**

Purpose:

For information.

Background:

The attached Fine Arts Report for the 2023-2024 school year provides a concise overview of the Fine Arts programs across the Division, including highlights of student achievements, program offerings and future plans. This report was developed to showcase the breadth and impact of our Fine Arts programming, emphasizing our commitment to nurturing creativity and artistic expression among students.

This report aligns with and advances our Board's Mission, Vision and Values by demonstrating our dedication to creating safe, respectful and collaborative learning environments. It highlights our focus on excellence in teaching, shared responsibility, mutual respect, and offering diverse learning choices that meet the unique needs of every student.

Administration is prepared to respond to questions at the June 19, 2024, Public Board meeting.

Attachment(s):

1. Fine Arts Report 2023 - 2024



Fine Arts Report 2023 - 2024

BACKGROUND

Sturgeon Public School Division programming strives to provide a well rounded education and strives for excellence in a variety of areas. The Division is proud to offer diverse programs to students because we know that ‘one size does not fit all’ and that to prepare students for their futures, we must meet their diverse needs along the way (Policy 105 Vision, Mission and Values). One of the areas that this diverse programming is evident is through Fine Arts education.

As outlined in the Alberta Fine Arts Program of Study, “...an articulated Fine Arts program involves students as creators, performers, historians, critics and consumers. The Fine Arts enable students to enhance the depth and breadth of their expression and intuitive response to fine art.”

Fine Arts Programs in Alberta

The Fine Arts Program of Study in Alberta consists of Art, Music, Drama and variations of these courses as explored through the prescribed programs of study, Career and Technology Foundations Courses (CTF), Career and Technology Studies Courses (CTS) and Locally Developed Courses (LDCs).

The Fine Arts Program of Study is explored in a variety of ways in Sturgeon Public Schools in order to best meet the needs of our students in a variety of contexts. Schools offer Art, Drama and Music through prescribed curriculum courses, clubs, CTF, CTS and LDCs.

Fine Arts in Kindergarten through Grade 6

ART

The Alberta Education Elementary [Art Program of Studies](#) identifies four main components:

Elementary Art: Components of Visual Learning		
Components	Description	Opportunities Provided
Reflection	Responses to visual forms of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grow and develop as an





	nature, designed objects and artworks.	individual; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop perceptual awareness • Learn visual arts skills and concepts to interpret and communicate with the visual symbol; • Utilize Creativity; • Develop artistic values; • Reflect upon and appreciate the cultural aspects of art; • Relate and appreciate art in everyday life.
Depiction	Development of imagery based on observations of the visual world.	
Composition	Organization of images and their qualities in the creation of unified statements.	
Expression	Use of art materials as a vehicle or medium for saying something in a meaningful way	



MUSIC

The Alberta Education Elementary [Music Program of Studies](#) dictates, through the music program students will develop:

Elementary Music: Components of Visual Learning		
Concepts	Skills	Attitudes
Rhythm	Singing	An enjoyment of music, that is neither trivial nor transient, should permeate the entire music program so that a lasting delight in music is created. If there is no enjoyment in the music program, all the other values will be lost. Positive attitudes toward music are fostered by success in singing, playing instruments, listening, moving, reading (and writing) and creating music. (Alberta Education Program of Studies)
Melody	Playing Instruments	
Harmony	Listening	
Form	Moving	
Expression	Reading and Writing	
	Creating	





DRAMA

The Alberta Education Elementary [Drama Program of Studies](#) strives to support students to develop an appreciation of theatre as a traditional art form.

Goals of the Drama Program:

1. To acquire knowledge of self and others that results from reflecting on dramatic play.
2. To develop competency in communication skills through drama.
3. To foster an appreciation for drama as an art form.

Elementary Drama: Dramatic Forms of Expression	
Focus	Skills
Moving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dramatic Movement ● Mime
Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Choral Speech ● Story Telling
Moving and Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dramatization ● Puppetry ● Choric drama ● Readers' Theatre ● Story Theatre ● Playmaking ● Group drama





Fine Arts in Grades 7 through 9

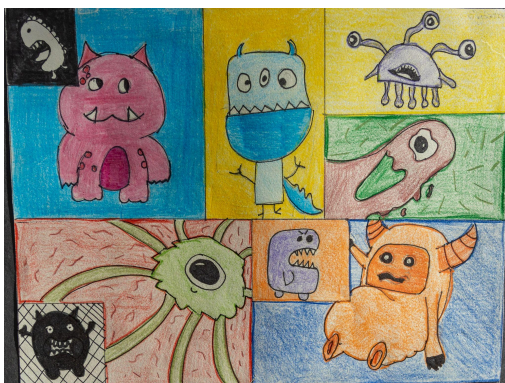
ART

The Alberta Grade [7-9 Art Program of Studies](#) has the following as areas of focus:

- The organization of visual material;
- Think and behaving as artists;
- Demonstrating the values that surround creation and cherishing art forms; and
- Appreciating ways in which people express their feelings in visual forms.

Secondary Art: Components of Artistic Expression

Drawings or delineations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recording Visual information and discoveries
Compositions or structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembling images together to create meaning
Encounters with art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting and responding to Visual Imagery





MUSIC

The [Music Program of Studies in grades 7-9](#) supports students to make sense of the meaning of music as performers, listeners, evaluators, consumers, historians and composers.

Secondary Music: Choral and General Instrumental. Program Goals:			
Secondary Music Program	Choral Music Program	General Music Program	Instrumental Music Program
To develop skills in listening, performing and using notational systems.	SINGING: To discover, develop and evaluate their talents and abilities.	SINGING/PLAYING: To explore and develop musical skills.	PLAYING: To discover, develop and evaluate their talents and abilities relative to playing a musical instrument.
To encourage students to strive for musical excellence.	READING: To interpret rhythm, melody, harmony, form and expression.	LISTENING: To develop the ability to make aesthetic judgments.	LISTENING: To develop the ability to make aesthetic judgments.
To enable students to understand, evaluate and appreciate a variety of music	LISTENING: To develop the ability to make aesthetic judgments.	CREATING: To learn how music is organized.	READING: To interpret rhythm, melody, harmony, form and expression.
To provide experiences that will foster the development of self-expression, creativity and communication through music.	CREATING: To develop an additional avenue of self expression by composing, improvising and interpreting music.	VALUING: To make students aware of the implications of music in our society with respect to music careers; music as a source of personal fulfillment.	CREATING: To develop an additional avenue of self expression by composing, improvising and interpreting music.
To make students aware of the history of music and the implications of music in our society	VALUING: To make students aware of the implications of music in our society with respect to music careers; music as a source of personal fulfillment.		VALUING: To make students aware of the implications of music in our society with respect to music careers; music as a source of personal fulfillment.
	PLAYING: To develop functional instrumental skills as an aid to individualized vocal practice.		

DRAMA

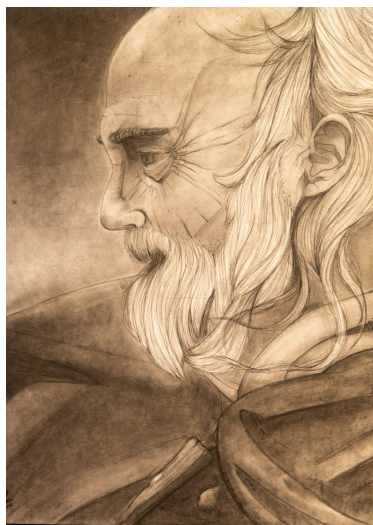
The [Drama Program of Studies for grades 7-9](#) promotes drama as both an art form and a medium for learning and teaching. It can develop the whole person – emotionally, physically, intellectually, imaginatively, aesthetically, and socially – by giving form and meaning to experience through “acting out”. It fosters positive group interaction as students learn to make accommodations in order to pursue shared goals.





Students will progress through the dramatic forms of expression at the secondary level. Greater emphasis is placed upon the development of the individual as a creator, performer, historian, critic and patron.

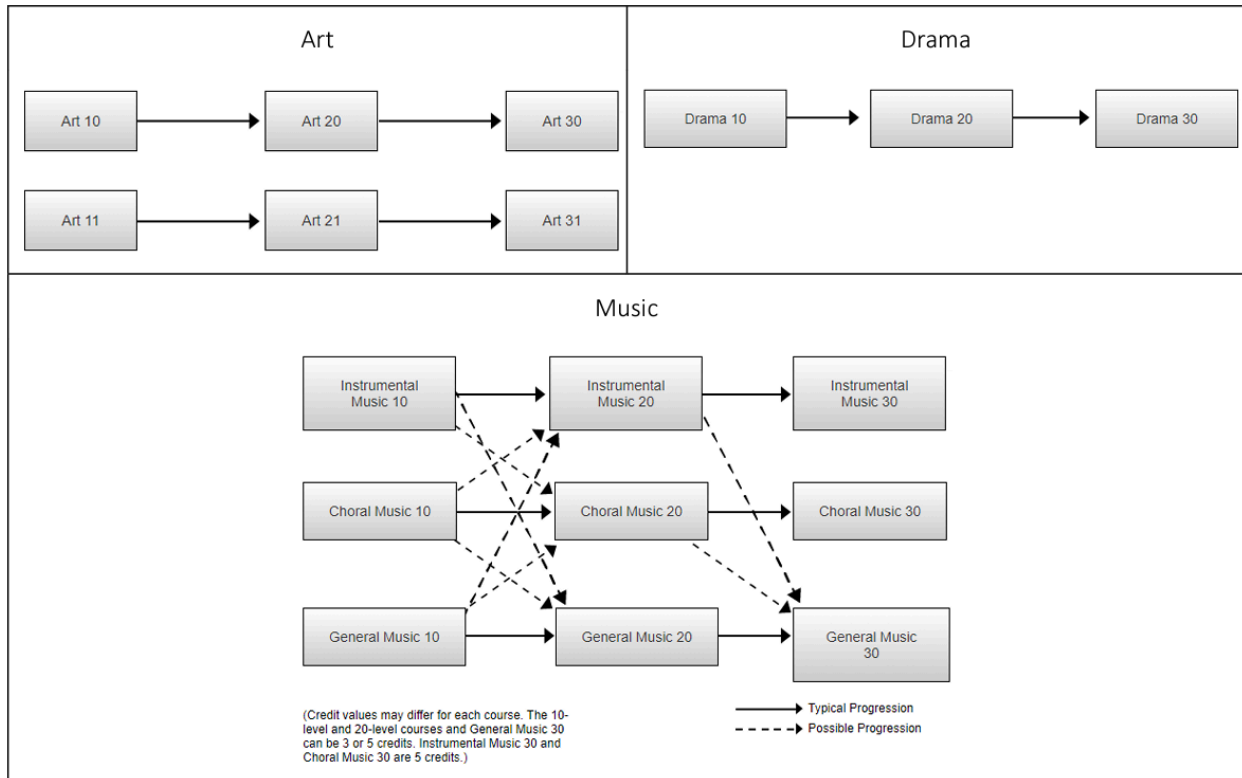
Secondary Drama		
Goals of the Drama Program	Disciplines that communicate	Disciplines that enhance communication
To acquire knowledge of self and others through participation in and reflection on dramatic experience.	MOVEMENT - tableau, creative movement, mime, dance drama, improvised dance, choreographed dance, stage fighting, clowning, mask	THEATRE STUDIES - performance analysis, theatre history, the script
To develop competency in communication skills through participation in and exploration of various dramatic disciplines.	SPEECH - storytelling, oral interpretation, choral speech, radio plays	TECHNICAL THEATRE - lighting, sound, makeup, costume, set, properties, puppetry, mask, visual media, management (stage/house/business)
To develop an appreciation for drama and theatre as a process and art form.	IMPROVISATION/ ACTING - creative drama, planned improvisation, spontaneous improvisation, theatre sports, group drama, puppetry, choric drama, readers' theatre, story theatre, scripted work, monologues, audition pieces, collective, musical theatre, film/video	





Fine Arts and Locally Developed Courses in Grades 10 to 12

The [Fine Arts Program of Studies in Grades 10-12](#) provides many avenues for students to explore their interests and to develop their artistic capabilities.



Locally Developed Courses

In addition to Art, Drama, and Music (available in three separate forms: Choral, General and Instrumental), and Career and Technology Studies (which utilizes the art of design), Fine Arts programming is also provided through the following Locally Developed Courses in Sturgeon Public Schools.

- Drumline
- Audio Music
- Performing Arts
- Guitar
- Film Studies
- Design Studies





Fine Arts in Sturgeon Public Schools

Sturgeon Public Schools is proud to offer a variety of structures to provide Fine Arts programming within our schools. In addition to the Provincially Authorized Courses in Art, Drama and Music, School Choirs and Drama Clubs, Fine Arts Extracurricular Clubs, Career and Technology Foundations Courses (CTF), and Locally Developed Courses (LDCs) are all ways in which Fine Arts programming is delivered within our schools.

Choir and Band

We are fortunate in Sturgeon Public Schools to have amazing Fine Arts staff throughout our schools. The majority of Sturgeon Public Schools offer choir and those that do not are looking for ways to implement it next school year.

For 2023-2024, Sturgeon Public Schools has 7 schools with Band programs. Sturgeon Composite High School competed in numerous provincial competitions and festivals, winning awards in every category for which they competed.

We are looking to explore possibilities to have Band opportunities in more of our schools for 2024-2025 as well as looking at expanding the drumline into Junior High through Drumline line camps taking place for our junior high students.





Drama Productions

This year, students performed the following Drama/Musical Productions

- Footloose
- Mean Girls Junior
- Rumpelstiltskin
- Finding Nemo
- Little Mermaid
- High School Provincial One Act Play Festival



Extracurricular and Co-curricular Clubs and Activities

In addition to opportunities in Choir and Drama, Extracurricular Clubs serve as a great way for students to participate in the Fine Arts. The clubs listed below are just some of the opportunities available to our students in Sturgeon Public Schools. Clubs are run at recess, lunch or after school.

- Art Club
- Dance Club
- E-Sports
- Creative Arts
- Knitting Club
- Cheer Club
- One Acts
- Drama Club
- Guitar Club
- Handbells
- Ukulele Club
- Musical Theatre

There are also a number of schools that offer exceptional programming in Fine arts. These include Performance Arts as well as a multifaceted Fine Arts Option that touches on a variety of the Arts.





Sturgeon Night of Music and Fine Arts

Sturgeon Public Schools is extremely proud of the opportunities students have to participate in Fine Arts. The Sturgeon Night of Music and the Creative Arts Festival are a chance to showcase the hard work that students and staff have put in through the year.

Creative Arts Festival at Sturgeon Composite High School

The Creative Arts Festival was hosted by Sturgeon Composite High School on April 18th, 2024. With close to 1000 pieces of artwork from students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 from most of our Sturgeon Public Schools on display, it was an amazing experience for our aspiring artists and their proud families in attendance. Several hundred visitors had the opportunity to share this experience together with their children. “Best of the Best” works of art were then displayed at the Winspear alongside the music programs during the Sturgeon Night of Music. In addition, the extended art display of these pieces of work from this celebration will be placed throughout the Frank Robinson Education Center for the 2024-2025 school year.





Sturgeon Night of Music at the Winspear Centre



On April 22, 2024, the Winspear Centre for the Arts hosted the 44th Annual Sturgeon Night of Music. The evening featured a variety of performances from students in Kindergarten through Grade 12. These performances included an Elementary East Choir and Elementary West Choir, High School Choirs, Drumline, Junior High Mass Band and Sturgeon Heights Musical Theatre. Over 400 students from 13 schools participated in an amazing night of music.

Family and friends of the performers were treated to the hard work of the students as well as special performances by Sturgeon Public Schools staff. The evening showed off the dedication of staff and students towards Fine Arts and are already looking forward to the 2024-2025 Sturgeon Night of Music.





Moving Forward

While Sturgeon Public Schools offers a variety of quality Fine Arts opportunities for our students, we continually strive for improvement. Some of the areas we look to expand or develop more for the 2024-2025 school year are:

- Continuing to evolve the Sturgeon Night of Music based on student, parent and staff feedback.
- Continuing to evolve the Creative Arts Festival based on student, parent and staff feedback.
- The expansion of the drumline program into junior high schools with drum kits available for sign out for a unit of time.
- The exploration of opportunities to increase student involvement in Band.
- Looking for ways to collaborate on musicals to broaden the experience for more SPS students.

