Support Meaningful High Quality Arts Education for all Kentucky Students!

The Kentucky Coalition for Arts Education is strongly opposed to Senate Bill 1’s removal of the visual and performing arts and other non-tested subjects from the accountability formula. The proposed Letters of Assurance model has no hope of ensuring that schools meet Kentucky Department of Education standards, because the only source of oversight comes from within the school. School culture and the supervisor-employee power differential make it unimaginable that any unmet concerns would ever be submitted to the Kentucky Department of Education. Accountability plays a major role in instruction in schools across the Commonwealth, and with no accountability and minimal oversight that does not include public reporting, arts education runs the very real risk of being marginalized in our state.

We further oppose the allowance for any non-arts courses to meet the required arts credit.

A robust arts program is invaluable to each school and the students who attend that school. Indeed, numerous studies link high arts involvement with high academic achievement, and for students from lower socio-economic backgrounds, high involvement with the arts is related to finding a better job and earning a college degree (Catterall, James S. (2009) Doing Well and Doing Good by Doing Art).

We ask Kentuckians email or call their House Representative to ask that Senate Bill 1 be voted down as long as the visual and performing arts remain outside the system that awards accountability points to schools. This is now in the hands of the House, so time is of the essence.

Protect meaningful, high quality dance, music, theatre and visual arts programs for all Kentucky students!

- Restore program reviews for non-tested subjects in SB1!
- Keep program reviews part of a school’s accountability score!
- Restore the high school arts requirement!

To determine who your house representative is,

- Go here <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/Find%20Your%20Legislator/Find%20Your%20Legislator.html>
- Type in your home address and click “Find my district”
- Click on the map
- On the popup, click on your House representative’s Bio page link for email information and phone numbers.

If you know who your house representative is,

- go here <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/whoswho/county.htm>,
- scroll down to your county, and
- click on your House representative’s name for email information and phone numbers.