

HORRY COUNTY SCHOOLS MONITORING REPORT – R-5 Fine Arts

I certify that the information in this report is true.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Cindy Elsberry, Superintendent

Disposition of the Board:
 _____ In compliance
 _____ Not in compliance
 _____ Compliance with exception

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Joe DeFeo, Board Chair

Comments: _____

R-4 – Fine Arts	Supt	Supt	Board	Board
	In compliance	Not in compliance	In compliance	Not in compliance
Each student will achieve mastery of performance standards or state competencies in Fine Arts.	✓			

Interpretation: I interpret this policy to mean that Horry County Schools will implement a course of study that is aligned with the South Carolina Visual and Performing Arts Academic Standards which outline what our students should know and be able to do in the arts. This comprehensive document addresses dance, music, theatre, and visual arts standards from preschool through advanced high school art courses. In Horry County Schools, students in grades PK-5 receive instruction in music and visual art from certified teachers in those disciplines. In the majority of middle and in all high schools, students have the opportunity to study visual art, band, chorus, and orchestra. In a majority of our high schools and in some middle schools, students also have the opportunity to take drama and public speaking course work. At the Academy for Arts, Science, and Technology, students may currently select a major in theatre, dance, art, or entertainment technology.

I further interpret this to mean that the staff will regularly monitor and evaluate the instructional programs at each school offering arts course work as part of the ongoing efforts to improve student learning in the areas of Fine Arts. Staff will also provide ongoing support through professional development opportunities designed to support arts teachers in developing curricula and assessments, developing content knowledge,

and promoting exceptional end products and performances in the arts programs in the schools.

Indicators of Evidence and Compliance:

We are in full compliance of this policy. Evidence is listed below:

- The district has established a fine arts theme in the Carolina Forest attendance cluster. Carolina Forest High School Drama Department has been selected to perform in the world's most prestigious arts festival as part of the American High School Theatre Festival taking place in Scotland in August 2014.
- Horry County Schools curricula and course offerings are aligned with the South Carolina Visual and Performing Arts Academic Standards and the National Standards for Arts Education.
- Instructional materials adoption processes comply with state requirements.
- The Fine Arts page on the district web site provides curriculum, information, useful links, and news about the fine arts program of the district:
http://www.horrycountyschools.net/pages/Horry_County_Schools/Ac2/Curriculum/Instruction/Fine_Arts_Group
- The district has developed and implemented class observation documents to guide staff, administrators, and teachers to share a common vision of what excellence in arts classrooms looks like. These are published on the Fine Arts page of the district web site.
- The district is able to compare numbers and achievement of middle and secondary music students through analysis of numbers of students making the annual All-County Music groups and by their ranking within the sections. As well, annual recordings of the All-County groups document the steady improvement of music students' achievement on a district-wide basis.
- Visual arts, theatre, dance and music students annually receive awards and recognitions individually and as part of ensembles.
- Music ensembles from the district are frequently invited to perform for prestigious conferences (SC School Board Association, Blue-Ribbon Schools, Middle School Association, etc.) *This year the St. James High School Chorale will perform for the SCSBA Conference.*
- The number of Horry County students accepted at local and national universities as fine arts majors has increased in recent years. *One indicator of this increase is that between 8 to 10% of the Fine Arts teaching staff members are Horry County Schools alumni who have returned to our staff after completing post-secondary work and earning their teaching certificate in an arts area.*
- Expanded teaching methodologies such as integration of language arts vocabulary approaches, music technology ("Smart Music"), elementary guitar, percussion and keyboard instruction to complement traditional singing, secondary keyboard (piano) instruction, graphic arts, video editing, interactive white boards, and Interwrite pads have been implemented to expand and improve learning opportunities in the arts.
- Fine arts teachers are active in their respective professional organizations and many have served as officers, committee members, and presenters. Art educators in Horry County Schools are a source of leadership for others throughout the state and region. Carolina Forest High School theatre director Wayne Canady has been chosen to receive the 2014 Directors Award from the American High School Theatre Festival.

- Students in grades 6 through 11 are identified as Artistically Gifted and Talented in compliance with the South Carolina Department of Education's Best Practices Manual and provided exceptional learning opportunities through attendance at the residential Summer Arts Academy, a cooperative project with Coastal Carolina University.
- The district is monitoring enrollment in music ensembles in grades 6-12 in an effort to work towards a goal of enrollment in all schools at targeted percentages of the total student body. The district fine arts specialist is working with individuals and groups in all attendance areas to monitor enrollment and to develop strategies to make music ensembles accessible to the largest number of students possible.
- Horry County Schools high school students have been accepted to attend the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities.
- Horry County Schools has earned national honors as one of 2014's "Best Communities for Music Education" designated by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation.
- The "Waves of the Future" performance sponsored by the Chicora Rotary Club has presented a second showcase of HCS performers featuring K-12 soloists and ensembles on the stage of The Carolina Opry.