

Survey of Arts Education in Mississippi's K-12 Public Schools

School District Name _____

Person Completing Form _____ Title/Position _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

District Website address _____

Introduction: The survey questions that follow are designed to determine the type of arts education provided in Mississippi school districts during the school day and in after school programs. Responses to the survey questions will provide a comprehensive view of arts education programs and practices in Mississippi. Data will be reported in general terms, and will not identify or publicize responses from individual school districts.

Most survey questions request multiple short answers, *i.e.*, a number, a percentage, yes/no, or a checkmark. An individual who is very familiar with the district and the arts program may complete the survey in approximately 30-45 minutes. More time may be required for others. Some answers may require review of data that should be available in the district central office. Numerous questions provide a comment space. Please submit comments to clarify responses or to provide additional information wherever appropriate. It is not necessary to offer a comment in each comment box.

The deadline for completing the survey is Friday, **September 22, 2006**.

The print version and on line version of the Arts Education Survey are formatted and numbered differently to accommodate electronic data collection. However, the survey questions are the same.

Note: The use of the word **arts** refers to the **core subjects** of dance, music, theatre and visual art. It may be helpful to refer to the definitions below while completing the questionnaire.

Definitions for the Survey:

Arts—collectively refers to four disciplines of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.

Arts Activity—an extracurricular offering that, in contrast to a **Course**, typically lacks a written curriculum, is not graded, offers no credit toward graduation, and is offered outside the regular school day. An arts activity would generally meet multiple times over a period of weeks or a semester.

Artwork—a work of art in a distinct arts discipline (a play, a symphony, a painting, a ballet, etc.)

Advanced—a level of arts instruction indicating prior study, usually 2-3 years at the high school level.

Certified Arts Specialist—a certified education professional with a standard (Level A), advanced, or alternative route teaching certificate in one of the arts disciplines: dance, music, theatre, or visual art.

Course—a curricular class described in Mississippi Course Codes and offered during the school day. Arts courses are taught as distinct disciplines. Course content for K-12 is designed to meet competencies of the Mississippi's 2003 *Visual and Performing Arts Framework* or by a district curriculum that meets or exceeds the state framework. Arts courses are usually graded in the same way as courses in other core subjects, and at the high school level offer credit toward graduation.

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Dance—an instructional program that includes creating (choreography), performing, and responding to dance; dance history and criticism, choreographic structure and process, and dance production.

Performance areas include ballet, modern jazz, ethnic, and folk dance.

Dedicated arts facilities—a space designed for arts instruction that includes features necessary to provide instruction (a sink in a visual art room; mirrors in a dance room, etc.). The primary use of the space is for instruction and practice in the arts discipline.

Instruction in an arts discipline—learning in the arts discipline, and **not** instruction that uses the art form primarily to teach other subjects. Instruction in an arts discipline leads to mastery of the knowledge and skills outlined in the definition for a particular arts discipline.

Music—an instructional program that includes creating (composing and improvising), performing, and responding to music; music history and literature, music theory and composition, music analysis and criticism. Performance areas include vocal, choral, and instrumental, and multimedia (using technology).

Proficient—a basic level of study in an arts discipline, usually indicating 1-3 years of instruction delivered by a certified arts specialist.

Teaching Artist (Artist-in-Residence)—a visual, literary, or performing artist or folklorist who visits a school for an extended period of time (multiple sessions over a period of weeks) for the purposes of teaching artistic techniques and concepts, conducting professional development, and/or consulting in the development of curricula.

Theatre—an instructional program that includes creating, performing and responding to dramatic works; theatre history and literature, research, analysis, and criticism. Students engage in acting, improvising, designing, directing, script writing, producing, analyzing and critiquing their own work and the works of others. **Note:** High school courses in forensics such as speech, oral communication, and debate do not align with the definition of theatre as described in the National Standards for Arts Education, the model for Mississippi's 2003 *Visual and Performing Arts Framework*.

Video/Film—an instructional program that includes creating and responding to works of art presented in video or film media; video/film history and criticism, technology hardware and software, techniques and processes. Courses may include television or video production, animation, and media literacy as applied to framework competencies in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.

Visual Arts—instruction that includes creating and responding to works of art in two-dimensional and three-dimensional formats; art history and criticism, media and materials, techniques and processes. Students participate in drawing, painting, print-making, sculpture; photography; communication and design arts; architecture and environmental arts; folk arts; ceramics, fibers, jewelry, works in wood, paper and other materials.

Note: Unless otherwise stated, survey questions refer to **2006-2007** school district data.

1. Please supply information that describes the school district in general terms.

a. What is the school district's 2006-2007 student enrollment?

_____ Up to 500	_____ 5,001 to 7,500
_____ 501 to 1,000	_____ 7,501 to 10,000
_____ 1,001 to 2,000	_____ 10,001 to 15,000
_____ 2,001 to 3,000	_____ 15,001 to 20,000
_____ 3,001 to 5,000	_____ More than 20,000

b. Please answer the following questions about per-pupil expenditures:

_____ What was the school district's per-pupil expenditure in the **2005-2006** school year?

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_____ Of the amount stated above, what percentage was provided by the Mississippi Adequate Education Program (MAEP)?

Comment _____

2. Please mark the response that best describes the district's enrollment trends from **2001 to 2006**?

_____ Remains the same _____ Decreasing
 _____ Minimal changes _____ Increasing

Comment _____

3. During the 2005 - 2006 school year, what percentage of students were eligible for the federally funded free or reduced price lunch program?

_____ Less than 10% _____ 31% to 50%
 _____ 11% to 20% _____ 51% to 75%
 _____ 21% to 30% _____ 76% to 100%

4. What arts disciplines are taught in the school district during the regular school day?

_____ Dance _____ Music _____ Theatre _____ Visual Art _____ *Integrated Arts

*Integrated Arts are taught by a K-8 teacher certified in a **core subject other than** the arts.

a. In 2006-2007, what courses are taught by **certified arts specialists** employed by the school district? If there is no certified arts specialist employed in a discipline/grade cluster, place a 0 (zero).

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Dance			
Music			
Theatre			
Visual Art			

b. Please enter the **number of full-time or part-time** certified arts specialists employed by the school district in 2006-2007 for each arts discipline.

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Dance #			
Music #			
Theatre #			
Visual Art #			

c. Does this number represent a change from the 2005-2006 school year?

_____ Yes, an increase _____ Yes, a decrease _____ No, there is no change from last year.

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5. What **percentage of students** in the district participate in arts classes that are taught by a certified arts specialist during the school day?

		Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Dance	%			
Music	%			
Theatre	%			
Visual Art	%			

Comment _____

6. What arts disciplines are taught in the district's **after-school programs**? If the district sponsors no after-school programs, please skip to the next question.

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Dance			
Music			
Theatre			
Visual Art			

Comment _____

7. How many **minutes per week** does the district normally schedule for arts instruction in each of the following arts disciplines and grade clusters **during the regular school day**?

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9-12
Dance			
Music			
Theatre			
Visual Art			

Comment _____

8. Please indicate percentages of time scheduled for arts instruction in the district.
 a. What **percentage of minutes** of instruction is taught by a full-time or part-time **certified** arts specialist **during the regular school day**?

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Dance			
Music			
Theatre			
Visual Art			

Comment _____

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- b. What **percentage** of these minutes is taught by a full-time or part-time teacher certified in a subject **other** than the arts **during the regular school day**?

		Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Dance	%			
Music	%			
Theatre	%			
Visual Art	%			

Comment _____

9. Please enter the number of National Board Certified Teachers employed by the district in the disciplines and grade clusters shown.

		Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Music	#			
Visual Art	#			
All other subjects	#			

10. Please indicate the grade clusters and arts disciplines for which the district utilizes a written curriculum **in addition to** the Mississippi Department of Education's *2003 Visual and Performing Arts Framework*. If the district uses the *2003 Visual and Performing Arts Framework* for all arts courses in all grades, skip to question 11.

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Dance			
Music			
Theatre			
Visual Art			

_____ Academic year in which the **district curriculum** was implemented.

Comment _____

11. The following questions ask about arts courses offered in the district during the 2006-2007 school year.
- a. Place a check in items below to indicate each arts course that is offered in the grade clusters shown.

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8
Dance		
Choral Music		
General Music		
Instrumental Music		
Theatre		
Visual Art		

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b. Please indicate the **number** of arts courses offered by the school district in **grades 9-12**.

Dance	Courses	Music	Courses
Dance - Proficient		General Music	
Dance - Advanced		Choral Music - Proficient	
Theatre	Courses	Choral Music - Advanced	
Theatre - Proficient		AP Music Theory	
Theatre - Advanced		Instrumental Music - Proficient	
Visual Art	Courses	Instrumental Music - Advanced	
Visual Art - Proficient			
Visual Art - Advanced			

Comment _____

12. Place a check in items below to indicate the grade levels in which students in your district may enroll in courses in the arts disciplines.

	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Dance				
General Music				
Choral Music				
Instrumental Music				
Music Theory				
Theatre				
Visual Art				

13. Please answer the following questions about district policy related to assessments (tests) in the arts.

a. Does the school district conduct **district-wide** arts assessments that measure student performance or achievement in the arts at the following levels?

Grades K – 4 _____ Yes _____ No
 Grades 5 – 8 _____ Yes _____ No
 Grades 9 – 12 _____ Yes _____ No

Comment _____

b. Which of the following assessment methods are used to evaluate student learning in the arts? Check all that apply.

Assessment Method	Visual Art			Music			Theatre			Dance		
	K-4	5-8	9-12	K-4	5-8	9-12	K-4	5-8	9-12	K-4	5-8	9-12
Performance evaluations												
Audio/video recordings												
Rubrics												
Portfolios												
Written tests												
Oral tests												

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Assessment Method (Continued)	Visual Art			Music			Theatre			Dance		
Cooperative group work												
Student self-assessment												
Teacher observation												
Individual participation												
Attitude/Behavior												
Other _____												
Other _____												

14. Please indicate the criteria used to determine report card grades in the arts. Check all that apply.

Grading Criteria	Visual Art			Music			Theatre			Dance		
	K-4	5-8	9-12	K-4	5-8	9-12	K-4	5-8	9-12	K-4	5-8	9-12
Test grades												
Homework grades												
Specific skills												
Technical proficiency												
Attitude/Behavior												
Individual participation												
Number of completed Projects												
Number of completed assignments												
Composite assessment of multiple factors												
Other _____												
Other _____												

15. Please respond to questions about grades for high school students enrolled in arts courses.

a. Does the school district include report card grades of grades 9-12 arts courses in the calculation of students' grade point average (GPA)? If the answer is **no**, skip to question 16.

_____ Yes _____ No

b. If grades for arts courses are included in the calculation of students' GPA, do the grades receive the same weight in the calculation as grades received in other core subjects?

_____ Yes _____ No

Comment _____

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16. What evidence exists to document the quality of the K-12 arts program in the school district and the broader community? Please check all that apply.

Evidence	Grade K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
The school board authorizes policies that build and strengthen sequential arts programs			
Central Office administration and staff support arts programs through hiring and other district policies			
Annual public events focus on a single arts discipline or on all the arts			
Accomplishments of students/groups in visual and performing arts are publicized in schools & district			
Accomplishments of students/groups in visual and performing arts publicized in local media reports			
District and community partnerships supplement instruction with arts experiences or arts field trips			
Student performances for school assemblies, for parents, and for the public			
Arts programs attract numerous parent volunteers			
Student artwork is displayed in public areas of the school building			
Student artwork is displayed in the community			
Students participate in visual art competitions			
Students participate in music, theatre or dance festivals and/or competitions			
Other _____			
Other _____			

17. Please respond to the following questions about **gifted students** in the arts.

a. Does the school district offer a program for students identified as gifted in the visual and performing arts? If the answer is **no**, go to question 18.

_____ Yes _____ No

b. If **yes**, please indicate what arts disciplines and grades are included in the district's programs for students identified as gifted in the visual and performing arts.

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Dance			
Music			
Theatre			
Visual Art			

Comment _____

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c. Which of the following services are provided for students identified as gifted in the visual and performing arts? Check all that apply.

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Pull-Out Program			
Individualized Instruction			
Classroom Grouping			
Arts Magnet School			
Alternative School			
Teaching Artist			
Mentor			
Other _____			
Other _____			

Comment _____

18. Please respond to the following questions about students with a special education ruling.

a. Do special education students receive the same number of minutes of arts instruction as regular education students in a school?

_____ Yes _____ No _____ More minutes? _____ Fewer minutes?

Comment _____

b. Which of the following approaches does the district utilize for arts instruction? Check all that apply.

Instructional Approaches	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Inclusion			
Mainstream Classroom			
Self-contained Classroom			
Individualized Instruction			
Pull-out Program			
Other _____			
Other _____			

Comment _____

19. Are there regularly scheduled district-wide **arts faculty meetings** where lessons, materials, and programs are discussed, articulated, developed, and/or evaluated? If the answer is **no**, skip to question 21.

_____ Yes _____ No

Comment _____

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20. How frequently are district-wide **arts faculty meetings** held?

Monthly Bi-monthly Quarterly Semester Annually

Comment _____

21. When the district schedules professional development **focused on the arts**, who is eligible to participate in the training? Check all that apply.

Arts Specialists All Teachers Teacher Assistants
 District Administrators Parent Volunteers School Board Members
 Other, please specify _____

Comment _____

22. Which agencies and/or personnel generally conduct professional development training for certified arts specialists and K-8 teachers who integrate the arts into all subjects? Check all that apply.

	Grade K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Arts specialists			
Arts supervisors			
Teaching artists			
District administrator			
Arts department chair			
Higher education faculty			
Mississippi Department of Education personnel			
Arts education organization trainers			
Cultural institutions			
Performing Arts Center staff			
Arts consultants			
Other _____			
Other _____			

23. In what ways are certified arts specialists and K-8 teachers who integrate the arts supported for attendance at professional development workshops, seminars, retreats, and conferences devoted to arts education? Check all that apply.

Support Methods	Grade K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Released time (a paid staff member covers the classes)			
Paid substitutes			

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Support Methods (continued)	Grade K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Professional leave that is not subtracted from sick leave			
Travel and <i>per diem</i> allowance			
Payment of registration fees			
Room and board			
Credit toward salary increase			
Advancement on career ladder			
Other _____			

Comment _____

24. Please indicate the extent of parental involvement in **attending** school-sponsored arts programs or events.

	Grade K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Greatly involved			
Moderately involved			
Very little involvement			
No involvement			

Comment _____

25. Please indicate the extent of parental **involvement in arts programs**, *i.e.*, volunteering at the school, communicating with other parents, editing a newsletter, assisting with field trips or travel, etc.

	Grade K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Greatly involved			
Moderately involved			
Very little involvement			
No involvement			

Comment _____

26. Please indicate the extent of parental involvement in **sponsoring and conducting fundraising** activities for the arts.

	Grade K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Greatly involved			
Moderately involved			
Very little involvement			
No involvement			

Comment _____

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27. What **percentage of the district's MAEP funding** is used for the arts?

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| _____ 10 % or Less | _____ 31% to 50% |
| _____ 11% to 20% | _____ 51% to 75% |
| _____ 21% to 30% | _____ 76% to 100% |

Comment _____

28. The 2004-2005 school year was the textbook adoption year for dance, music, theatre, and visual arts. Please indicate how the district's textbook funds were spent.

a. In what grade levels and disciplines were district textbook funds used to purchase state adopted textbooks for arts instruction.

Textbooks purchased?	Grades K – 4		Grades 5 – 8		Grades 9 – 12	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Dance						
Choral Music						
General Music						
Instrumental Music						
Theatre						
Visual Art						

b. If the response is **no** in all disciplines in the previous table, please state what the district purchased with textbook funds.

c. What **percentage** of district textbook funds was used to purchase textbooks in the arts disciplines?

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| _____ 10% or Less | _____ 31% to 50% |
| _____ 11% to 20% | _____ 51% to 75% |
| _____ 21% to 30% | _____ 76% to 100% |

29. Which of the following local resources supplement arts instruction and/or arts programs in the school district with funds or with other types of assistance? Check all that apply.

Local Resources	Grade K – 4		Grades 5 – 8		Grades 9 – 12	
	Funds	Other	Funds	Other	Funds	Other
Local Arts Council						
University/College						
Educational Foundation						
Local/Regional Grants						
Public Library						
Parks and Recreation Department						
Local Arts Center						
Cultural Institutions						
PTO/PTA, parent groups						

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Local Resources (continued)	Grade K – 4		Grades 5 – 8		Grades 9 – 12	
	Funds	Other	Funds	Other	Funds	Other
Student Activities Fund						
Booster Clubs						
Friends of the Arts group						
Community service organizations						
Local Business/Corp						
Faith Based Organization						
Other _____						
Other _____						

Comment _____

30. Other than funding, please identify **five** critical need(s) for arts education **within each grade cluster** in the school district. Number the needs in priority order, five entries per grade cluster.

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Materials and supplies including technology			
State-adopted textbook and accompanying products			
Adequate and appropriate dedicated arts facilities			
Arts-based professional development for classroom generalists			
Arts-based professional development for arts specialists			
Sufficient number of certified teacher applicants			
District arts coordinator			
Sufficient scheduling times			
Flexibility in scheduling			
Faculty planning time			
Understanding of the role of the arts as a core subject			
Other _____			
Other _____			

Comment _____

31. Please indicate the use of **arts-based** school improvement initiatives that are currently implemented by the district. Check all that apply.

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School Improvement Initiatives	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
Whole Schools Initiative			
USDE Model Development			
Comprehensive School Reform			
No arts initiatives at this time			
Grant? _____			
Other _____			

Comment _____

32. Compared to the 2005-2006 school year, please show how each of the following indicators of the district's arts program in **grades K-4** has changed in 2006-2007.

Arts Program Indicators	Not available at this time	Decreased greatly	Decreased slightly	Remained the same	Increased slightly	Increased greatly
Number of students receiving instruction in the arts						
Number of certified arts specialists working in K – 4 th grade levels						
Number of arts disciplines offered that are taught by certified arts specialists						
Access to arts instruction taught by teachers who integrate the arts						
In-school performances						
Instruction aligned with Mississippi's 2003 Visual and Performing Arts Framework						
Access to instructional resources or materials provided by institutions such as museums, galleries, or performing arts organizations						
Use of field trips to sites relevant to arts education						
Use of teaching artists or artist residencies						
Effective use of arts assessment to determine student achievement in the arts						
Access to after-school programs that include arts instruction						
Allocation of supplies, materials, and technology for use in arts instruction						
Percentage of budget designated for arts programs						
Access to technology resources and materials for the arts						
School classroom space devoted to arts instruction						
Availability of dedicated arts facilities, <i>i.e.</i> , dance studio, music classroom, visual art room, performing arts center, etc.						

Comment _____

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33. Compared to the 2005-2006 school year, please show how each of the following indicators of the district's arts program in **grades 5-8** has changed in 2006-2007.

Arts Program Indicators	Not available at this time	Decreased greatly	Decreased slightly	Remained the same	Increased slightly	Increased greatly
Number of students receiving instruction in the arts						
Number of certified arts specialists working in 5 th – 8 th grade levels						
Number of arts disciplines offered that are taught by certified arts specialists						
Access to arts instruction taught by teachers who integrate the arts						
Instruction aligned with Mississippi's 2003 Visual and Performing Arts Framework						
Access to instructional resources or materials provided by institutions such as museums, galleries, or performing arts organizations						
Use of field trips to sites relevant to arts education						
Use of teaching artists or artist residencies						
In-school performances						
District festivals/events						
Student productions/performances						
Effective use of arts assessment to determine student achievement in the arts						
Access to after-school programs that include arts instruction						
Allocation of supplies, materials, and technology for use in arts instruction						
Percentage of budget designated for arts programs						
Access to technology resources and materials for the arts						
School classroom space devoted to arts instruction						
Availability of dedicated arts facilities, <i>i.e.</i> , dance studio, music classroom, visual art room, performing arts center, etc.						

Comment _____

34. Compared to the 2005-2006 school year, please show how each of the following indicators of the district's arts program in **grades 9-12** has changed in 2006-2007.

Arts Program Indicators	Not available at this time	Decreased greatly	Decreased slightly	Remained the same	Increased slightly	Increased greatly
Number of students electing to enroll in arts courses						
Number of certified arts specialists working in 9 th – 12 th grade levels						

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Arts Program Indicators (continued)	Not available at this time	Decreased greatly	Decreased slightly	Remained the same	Increased slightly	Increased greatly
Number of arts disciplines and courses that are taught by certified arts specialists						
Access to arts instruction taught by teachers who integrate the arts						
Access to arts instruction taught by certified teachers at proficient and advanced levels						
Instruction aligned with Mississippi's 2003 Visual and Performing Arts Framework						
Access to instructional resources or materials provided by institutions such as museums, galleries, or performing arts organizations						
Use of field trips to sites relevant to arts education						
Use of teaching artists or artist residencies						
In-school performances						
District festivals/events						
Student productions/performances						
Effective use of arts assessment to determine student achievement in the arts						
Access to after-school programs that include arts instruction						
Allocation of supplies, materials, and technology for use in arts instruction						
Percentage of budget designated for arts programs						
Access to technology resources and materials for the arts						
School classroom space devoted to arts instruction						
Availability of dedicated arts facilities, <i>i.e.</i> , dance studio, music classroom, visual art room, performing arts center, etc.						

Comment _____

35. Please indicate ways the school district has sought **funding for the arts** from sources outside the Mississippi Adequate Education Program and local tax proceeds.

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 – 12
No funding sought			
Grant proposals			
Foundation funds			
Corporate gifts			
Community resources			
State agencies			
Capital campaign			
Bond referendum			

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c. In the school district, who is responsible for observing and conducting annual evaluations of arts specialists?

	Grades K – 4	Grades 5 – 8	Grades 9 - 12
Principal			
Assistant Principal			
Curriculum Director			
Arts Coordinator			
Arts Department Chair			
Other _____			
Other _____			

Comment _____

d. Are the schools' arts programs evaluated in the same way that instructional programs in other core subjects are evaluated?

_____ Yes _____ No

Comment _____

e. Who administers and supervises instructional programs offered in the arts **at the school district level**?

Arts Coordinator Administrator
 Curriculum Director Lead Teacher
 Project Director Other _____

Comment _____

37. Please provide any additional statements or comments that describe the arts program in the school district that were not adequately covered by the previous survey questions.

Comment _____

Thank you for participating in the Status of Arts Education Survey. Data entered for your school district will contribute to research that will benefit school leaders, policy makers, and ultimately, the students of Mississippi.

Please make every effort to complete the survey on line. However, if you are unable to do so, you may mail a completed paper copy of the survey to this address.

Lola Norris, Executive Director
 Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education
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 Hattiesburg, MS 39402