

What Does it Mean to be an Arts Involved Campus?

Your campus classifies as an arts involved school, and therefore meets the basic criteria as a Creative Campus. In arts involved schools, the majority of students receive sequential fine arts instruction, many teachers use creative teaching strategies at least once a week, and community arts partnerships are cultivated both during and after school. To improve, support, and encourage all teachers to implement creative teaching, develop new community arts partnerships in additional grade levels both during and after school, and communicate more frequently with families about the value of creative learning.

Why does AISD Measure Creative Campus Scores for its campuses?

National research on creative learning shows that students attending arts-rich schools have higher levels of motivation and better academic and social success (Dwyer, 2011). In addition, prior research into the Creative Learning Initiative (CLI) in AISD indicated that the implementation of creative teaching strategies is related to increased levels of student engagement, attendance, greater academic achievement, and social emotional skills (Christian, Hasty, & Wang, 2017). Current AISD findings indicate that 36% of our secondary schools are already Creative Campuses (Figure 1). Because the arts benefit students academically and creatively, AISD, in collaboration with the City of Austin and MINDPOP, is strategically working towards achieving Creative Campuses for all students

Additional information

Creative Campus Goals at Fulmore

Each year, school leaders develop a Campus Improvement Plan (CIP). Despite there being no district requirement to do so, in 2016-2017 77% of secondary schools made CIP goals related to becoming a more Creative Campus. Fulmore set the following goal: *"Implementation of Creative Learning Initiative techniques in classrooms. Provide at least three opportunities for students to experience the fine arts in cooperation with the community. Provide students opportunities to participate in at least two literary publications. School participation in at least two interscholastic (UIL or n-UIL) competitions in music, theater, film, journalism, or other fine arts areas. Creative Learning Arts Inventory completed and used to inform practice and annual campus action plan. Provide extension programs that increase Fine Arts opportunities for students. Provide students who are enrolled in fine arts classes at least two opportunities to perform in, actively participate in, or display their work in a fine arts related production or exhibition."*

At the end of the year, school leaders reflected on their progress, as follows:

Progress: "Mostly accomplished"

Challenges: "Time."

Successful Strategies: "Great teachers!"

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References

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