

## **The Arts**

The board recognizes the value of providing students an education in the arts, including the disciplines of dance, media arts, music, theater, and visual arts. The arts engage all learning styles, and they lead to powerful and life-long habits, such as creativity, collaboration, communication, and critical thinking. The arts provide students with keys to understanding the world around them and strategies for learning, interpreting, and expressing their thoughts. Students may further develop their art skills through independent activities and programs. The district encourages students and their families to take advantage of any learning opportunities in the arts available to them.

The district will encourage students to learn the arts effectively at a high level of proficiency.

The district also recognizes the importance of allowing students to learn at their own pace, and the educational benefits that can be gained by giving students the opportunity to demonstrate competency of skills, proficiency of standards, and mastery of concepts.

In order to recognize the social studies proficiency of students, the superintendent is directed to develop procedures for awarding social studies credits to students based on demonstrated proficiency across a range of social studies skills.

### **Legal References:**

RCW 28A.230.090 High school graduation requirements or equivalencies — Reevaluation of graduation requirements — Review and authorization of proposed changes — Credit for courses taken before attending high school — Postsecondary credit equivalencies WAC 180-51-050 High school credit — Definition

**Cross References:** 2410 – High School Graduation Requirements

**Adoption Date: 04.28.20  
Washougal School District**

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### **Demonstrating Competency/Proficiency in The Arts**

The district will manage the assessment process so that students seeking competency-based credit can demonstrate competency/proficiency in art skills.

A student may recover up to 1 art credit if the student meets standard on another approved state alternative that meets the graduation requirement.

Additionally, a student may obtain 1 art credit for passing a district created assessment that is aligned to state learning standards, such as a portfolio of student work. Students do not need to have attempted and failed a course before being eligible for this option.