

## IMPACT AND VALUE – RESEARCH FACTS SHEET: THE 'ARTS-RICH' SCHOOL

Longley, L. (1999) *Gaining the Arts Advantage: Lessons from school districts that value arts education*. Presidents Committee on the Arts and Humanities and Arts Education Partnership. Washington DC, pp.9–14).

### The arts-rich school offers:

- arts access for all and a learning continuum in the arts
- a commitment to providing a basic education in the arts to every child
- the arts are acknowledged as a strong component in an interdisciplinary curriculum in the elementary years
- a continuum of learning in and through the arts that follows through sequential coursework
- senior pathways in the arts to enable tertiary matriculation.

### Specialised curriculum and culture of excellence:

- a wide range of specialised programs for students of the arts
- an environment that encourages students to aspire to excellence
- students that demonstrate commitment to their work and win praise and recognition
- student achievements that contribute to community enthusiasm for the arts
- a belief in the excellence and quality of the school's educational system.

### Collaborative practice:

- teams of classroom teachers, arts specialists and teaching artists working together on building curricula, delivering instruction and learning from each other
- the use of varied approaches in the classroom including: arts specific subjects, arts integration, teaching artists programs and industry residencies.

### Leadership:

- arts specialist teachers creating and sustaining sequential arts education

- district arts coordinators who mobilise community support for arts education through budget priorities, interschool communication and community partnerships
- principals who create high expectations, and whose support for arts education is unswerving.

### Planning, research and advocacy:

- a comprehensive plan for incremental implementation of arts education
- a school district and state-level resource commitment to facilitating arts education
- ongoing data gathering about arts integration, productive pedagogies, teacher engagement strategies and student achievement.

### Community partnerships:

- community members (parents, families, artists, art organisations, local civic and cultural leaders) are given the opportunity to actively engage in the school arts education programs
- community involvement is the most critical factor in sustaining arts education in schools.

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