

# REPORT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.46 (SUNSHINE COAST)

## STRATEGIC PLAN REPORT: FINE ARTS

Submitted by Superintendent Patrick Bocking  
June 9, 2021

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1k Our students will actively participate in expanded *fine arts* programs.

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*Art is a non-pre-prescribed dangerous world full of possibilities.*

- Cate Blanchett, actor

*Arts education is in crisis. In the UK, school time and budgets are under pressure and school inspections increasingly value 'core' subjects as the indicators of school level and success.*

- Tate Art Gallery in the UK

### **Background:**

School District 46 is much more Cate's quote, than Tate's quote.

The Board has developed an arts policy which supports the work of staff in establishing solid arts programming in our schools and also provides support for keeping the arts as a key element for learning on the Sunshine Coast. The arts are central for many students' joyful engagement in their learning experiences.

The district Fine Arts Committee is developing a fine arts plan to more deeply integrate the curriculum with our students' interests, the talents of our staff and the support of our community.

### **Discussion:**

The three-year fine arts plan is based on many of the goals of the Board's Strategic Plan. The district team includes a range of staff expertise including community school, teaching, Indigenous, school and district leadership. The plan will include each "fine arts goal" with specific strategies to address each of those goals in drama, dance, music and visual arts, as appropriate for each goal.

In line with the anti-poverty policy, the board has provided funds to purchase musical instruments for elementary student music programs so that every child has access to instruments regardless of ability to pay. Some schools offer alternative musical expressions such as drumming and school choirs as well. The purchase order has been placed for band instruments, and further classroom supports will be purchased in the coming year.

**Next Steps:**

- The District Fine Arts Committee will complete the Fine Arts Implementation Plan in the fall of 2021.
- Funds allocated for supporting the music program will be utilized for a rich and engaging program for all students.
- Staff will begin outreach to the community to bring community art into schools, and student art into the community.