

Proposition 28: Arts and Music in Schools Funding

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2026-27

Name: Saugus Union

CDS Code: 1964998-0000000

Allocation Year: 2025-26, 2024-25, 2023-24

1. Narrative description of the Prop 28 arts education program(s) funded. (2500 character limit).

The Saugus Union School District (SUSD) Arts Education Program, funded by Proposition 28, delivers comprehensive, standards-based visual & performing arts instruction to all TK–6 students across 14 elementary schools. Grounded in California's Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) standards, the program ensures equitable access to high-quality arts experiences that foster creativity, collaboration, & academic enrichment. Students participated in nine-week instructional rotations, with each rotation held one day weekly per class for 30 minutes of dedicated arts instruction. This structure allowed 9,164 students to explore a variety of art forms in depth while maintaining consistent engagement. Focus areas included general music, instrumental music, dance, visual arts, & theater arts. All TK–6 students rotated through general music, dance, visual arts, & theater. These disciplines build foundational skills in rhythm, movement, expression, storytelling, & ensemble work. Lessons support 21st-century skills such as communication & critical thinking. Instruction is culturally responsive, highlighting diverse traditions and artistic perspectives. Students in grades 3–6 also receive instrumental music instruction in recorders, djembe drums, percussion, & keyboards. These lessons introduce music theory, technique, & group performance, encouraging musical literacy, self-discipline, & collaboration. The district had 21 positions for VAPA specialists, including three lead positions that provide instructional support and guide curriculum development. Staffing has fluctuated throughout the year between 15 and 21 specialists due to the competitive employment market. These specialists also extend their impact beyond the school day by offering arts instruction during parent engagement events & the district's summer expanded learning program. These opportunities enrich the broader school community, foster family involvement, & reinforce creative learning in inclusive environments. While Proposition 28 funding has expanded access & resources, staffing remains a challenge. The district continues to prioritize outreach & support strategies to maintain instructional quality and consistency. Despite challenges, SUSD remains committed to sustaining a vibrant arts program. Through thoughtful planning, creative scheduling, & strong community partnerships, the district is cultivating a rich culture of creativity that enhances learning and supports the holistic development of every child.

2. Number of full-time equivalent teachers (certificated). 0.0

3. Number of full-time equivalent personnel (classified). 21.0

4. Number of full-time equivalent teaching aides. 0.0

5. Number of students served. 9,164

6. Number of school sites providing arts education. 14

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Annual Report Data URL

<https://www.saugusUSD.org/categorical-programs>

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