

# Prop 28: *The Arts & Music in Schools* Implementation



*Excellence  
and Equity*



**LONG BEACH**  
UNIFIED • SCHOOL • DISTRICT

# Proposition 28 in LBUSD – Overview

Implemented districtwide in 2023–24

Builds on decades of investment in elementary music and strong secondary VAPA programs

Leveraged as a catalyst to:

- Expand access across grade spans
- Advance equity
- Align arts education with culturally responsive and sustaining pedagogy



# Expanded Access & Program Strengthening

- Elementary arts expanded beyond music to include **Art, Dance, and Theater** for the first time districtwide
- Secondary visual and performing arts electives stabilized and strengthened
- Prop 28 enabled a comprehensive, TK–12 approach to arts education



# Equity-Driven Implementation

- Conducted a Spring 2023 Equity Audit, aligned with Board Policy 0415 (Funding Equity Policy)
- Identified disparities in staffing and student access across schools
- Findings directly informed:
  - Allocation of new positions
  - Program expansion decisions
  - Equity-focused implementation strategies



# Staffing & Capacity Building

Hired 41 new elementary and 15 new certificated secondary VAPA teachers

Established a new classified role: Arts Walk-On Coach

- 120+ coaches hired over the past three years

Staffing investments support:

- Discipline-specific instruction
- Course access and continuity
- Classroom implementation and sustainability

**Example of Programmatic Impact:**  
Since Prop 28 implementation, every  
middle school offers both Art & Music



# Advancing Culturally Responsive & Sustaining Pedagogy

Grounded in LBUSD's Arts Mission: balanced, sequential, whole-child learning

Prop 28 amplifies this mission by:

- Ensuring universal access regardless of school location
- Positioning the arts as a core means of student expression and meaning-making
- Supporting programs that reflect and sustain student and community identities



# What Proposition 28 Has Enabled in LBUSD

Expanded arts access across TK–12, including new elementary disciplines

Data-driven, equity-aligned implementation grounded in local policy (BP 0415)

Strategic staffing investments supported by strong higher education partnerships

Guaranteed funding leveraged to launch a long-term **5-Year Arts Strategic Plan**

Demonstrates how Prop 28 can:

- Advance equity
- Strengthen workforce pipelines
- Sustain high-quality arts education at scale

