

## 1. ART AND CTE POSITION STATEMENT:

WAEA Position Statement on Visual Art and its Relationship to CTE [Presented March 2017, adopted November 2018] The WAEA believes students who are enrolled in any course where visual arts credit is earned, including many courses designated as Career Technical Education (CTE), should be taught by certified/licensed and highly qualified visual art educators. CTE implementation is having a variety of adverse effects, in some cases, on visual art educators and visual art education programs, including the following: In some cases, CTE courses are replacing visual art courses and issuing visual arts credit. In some cases, visual art educators are being replaced by CTE educators. In some cases, visual art credit is being awarded (through a cross-credit process) for classes which teach little to no visual art foundations, elements, or principles. Visual Arts educators possess specific knowledge and preparation necessary to deliver quality instructional content that develops the creative-problem-solving and critical thinking skills afforded through visual arts education. The visual art language is one of creative expression steeped in skills related to problem-solving, communication, divergent and convergent thinking, and higher order skills. All visual art instruction includes assessment of standards-based learning using tools such as reflective statements, assessment rubrics, constructed response, and portfolios. Instruction in the visual arts develops student capacity for artistic expression with original thought leading to creative production, success in higher education, careers, and real-world situations. The WAEA asserts that: No Visual Art course should be replaced with a CTE course which is not taught by a certified visual art instructor. CTE instructors should not be placed to teach Visual Art courses, unless they possess, or are actively pursuing, a visual arts certification. All CTE courses which are proposed to be cross-credited to the Visual Art portion of the Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) graduation requirement, should have, as a prerequisite, a course in Visual Art Foundations, taught by a certified visual art instructor. All schools & districts should have a clear policy and fair system for establishing a course's eligibility for cross-crediting. This process should include required final approval by an Arts Administrator or Arts Department Head, whichever is appropriate for the specific school or district. This policy should also include a periodic review/re-approval of all courses which are cross-credited with visual art.