

2. PROTECTING ART FROM PULLOUTS POSITION STATEMENT:

WAEA Position Statement on protecting students' Visual Art opportunities from being taken away for the purpose of remediation or high stakes test preparation. [Presented June 2017, Adopted November 2018] The Arts, defined as dance, music, theatre, media and visual arts, are core and basic education, under both Washington State and federal law and policy. There is no distinction, in any of these laws and policies, which designates any one core and basic subject area as being of greater importance than any other core and basic subject area. Both the "No Child Left Behind Act,"(NCLB) and it's reauthorization, the "Every Student Succeeds Act," (ESSA) contain language advising that students who require remediation in tested areas, such as math or English, receive that extra instruction in such a way as to not impact the rest of the student's regular school day. Therefore, it is the official position of the WAEA that: It is the responsibility of every school in Washington State to provide equal access to art instruction, during the regular school day, as they do for other core and basic education subject areas, such as math, English, or science. No student should be denied entry into an art class in order for them to be placed in a remediation or high stakes test preparation course. No student should be removed from their art course in order for them to be placed in a remediation or high stakes test preparation course. Schools should make every effort to honor the language and intent of the ESSA and schedule any remediation and/or high stakes test preparation courses outside of the regular school day, so as not to adversely affect any student's opportunities to take art instruction, or instruction in any of the other core and basic subjects, which are essential components to a well-rounded education. These efforts, by the school, should be documented for potential review by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Board of Education, and/or the appropriate committee(s) of the Washington State Legislature.