

ADVOCACY STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

How can I advocate for Arts Education at my child's school right now?

- Attend the Burbank Unified School District (BUSD) LCAP Town Hall meeting, TODAY, May 8 at 7pm in the BUSD District Office Boardroom (1900 W Olive Street, Burbank, CA 91506). Make a public comment about the importance of Arts Education for your child or watch live on BUSD's Facebook Page!
- Talk to other parents and members of our community about BUSD's budget crisis and what it means for arts education.
- Watch for information about BUSD awareness campaigns and join in efforts to educate the community about the crisis and what can be done about it.
- Participate in monthly Ed Walks with BUSD School Board members and tell them your story about how arts education impacts your child's education. School Board members walk one Saturday a month until June 20, 2019, on the Chandler Bike Path. For details, contact: kimberleyclark@burbankusd.org
- State Legislators are currently negotiating key aspects of the Governor's proposed CA K-12 budget. The Legislators must pass a budget by June 15, 2019. Contact your Legislative members NOW to speak about the importance of Key Elements of the Governor's budget to increase state funding for BUSD including:
 1. **Support the proposed increase in funds from the State Surplus to pay off State School Districts' rising debt obligations to CalSTRS for a District cost savings of \$700,000.**
 2. **Support an increase in funding to the Local Control Funding Formula's Cost of Living Adjustment of 3.46% to provide BUSD with an additional \$1 million to lower the \$3.5 million budget deficit.**
- Contact your school site PTA and learn about the role of the PTA Arts Chair.
- Review Burbank Art for All Foundation's Parent Toolkit about how you can be a solution partner to support arts education for BUSD students: www.burbankartsforall.org/2018/10/03/parent-tool-kit

Use Arts education data and facts in your advocacy efforts. Here are a few examples:

- Sustained learning in music and theater correlates to greater success in math and reading, and students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds show the greatest benefits.
- Students who learn to read music show improved reading scores in English Language Arts.
- Arts Education increases student attendance.
- Students who participate in arts education are less likely to drop out of school.
- Students who participate in arts education have fewer disciplinary infractions.
- Students who participate in arts education have increased empathy.
- Arts Education boosts critical thinking.
- Art provides students a way to communicate when they are too young to articulate their thoughts through written language.
- Students involved in music classes are more likely to graduate from high school and more likely to attend college.

Tell your story:

- Burbank Arts for All Foundation wants to hear from you! Contribute your voice to the collection of stories on Burbank Arts For All Foundation The Blog at www.burbankartsforall.org/category/blog/
- Your Principal or BUSD's Arts & CTE Coordinator (www.burbankusd.org/afa) may welcome the opportunity to learn how BUSD arts education impacted your child's life.
- Meet with or write to BUSD School Board members and state representatives to share your experience with arts education and why it made a difference in your child's life.

Write your Local and State Representatives about the importance of Arts Education:

To find out who your representative is, go to: <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov>

Most Burbank Residents are represented by:

State Senator Anthony Portantino
116 E Broadway, Suite 204
Glendale, CA 91205
(818) 409-0400

CA State Assembly Member Laura Friedman
300 East Magnolia Blvd, Suite 504
Burbank, CA 91504
(818) 558-3043

Submit comments online: <https://sd25.senate.ca.gov>

Submit Comments online: <https://a43.asmdc.org>

- Contact the CA Senate Education committee <https://sedn.senate.ca.gov>
- Contact the CA Assembly Education committee <https://aedn.assembly.ca.gov>
- Go to FullAndFairFunding.org to read or sign the petition by the CA School Board Association.

BUSD School Board members:

Dr. Roberta Reynolds, President: RobertaReynolds@burbankusd.org

Dr. Armond Aghakhanian, Vice President: ArmondAhakhanian@burbankusd.org

Steve Frintner, Clerk: SteveFrintner@burbankusd.org

Charlene Tabet, Member: CharleneTabet@burbankusd.org

Steve Ferguson, Member: SteveFerguson@burbankusd.org

Educate yourself about school funding and the value of arts education:

- **Burbank Arts for All Foundation's Be Informed** - www.burbankartsforall.org/be-informed/
Advocacy tools, resources & information, and critical updates on arts education in Burbank, throughout the Los Angeles Region, across the State, and at the National level
- **BUSD Arts for All Department** - www.burbankusd.org/afa/
BUSD's Arts for All website to find out more art education instruction and upcoming events at BUSD schools
- **Ed100** - www.ed100.org
A free resource that provides easy-to-understand lessons to help in understanding school budgets
- **CreateCA** - www.createca.net
Learn more about Arts Advocacy in California, the declaration of Students Rights for ALL to high-quality arts, Arts Equity School Districts, and a state-wide Public Will Campaign
- **NPR's School Money Report** - www.npr.org/series/473636949/schoolmoney
A 2016 NPR series with an interactive map of per pupil funding from different districts across the country
- **2019 Art Scan** - www.ecs.org/wp-content/uploads/2019-ArtScan-at-a-Glance.pdf
A quick glance of arts education policies broken down by state, created by the Education Commission of the States and the Arts Education Partnership (updated annually)
- **"State by State Guide for Arts Education Funding"** - www.giarts.org/esea-map
An interactive map from Grantmakers in the Arts, which includes a short explanation of how each State's plan under the ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) incorporates the arts and recommendations on who to talk to in your State, school district, or schools to begin helping shape your state's commitments

For additional resources and information, visit:

www.BurbankArtsforAll.org/2019/03/28/May2019Exchange