



TO: Scott Swisher, Ed.D.  
Deputy Commissioner of Education

FROM: Donlynn Rice, Senior Administrator, Curriculum and Instruction  
Debbie DeFrain, Director of Fine Arts

SUBJECT: Fine Arts Update

**Proposed Board Action:**

Approve draft of Nebraska Fine Arts Standards for public comment.

**Background Information:**

In September 2012, the Nebraska Arts Council awarded the Department of Education a grant to assist with funding for the development of a new set of standards that are reflective of Fine Arts Education in the 21st century. With recent NDE budget limitations this \$46,100 grant provided much needed funding enabling NDE to bring together groups of educators and other experts to develop the new standards. NDE has been the lead on the project and has followed the same process that has been used to develop the academic content standards in other areas. Over the past several months writing and editing groups have met several times to work on the drafts. The next part of the process is to release draft standards in the areas of Visual Arts, Media Arts, Music, Theatre, and Dance to gather input from all educators and the general public. There will be several opportunities to provide input including a web based survey and a public hearing. All input will be reviewed and considered prior to returning the final drafts to the State Board for approval.

**Estimated Cost:**

\$46,100 from the Nebraska Arts Council.

**Supporting Documentation Included:**

**For Additional Information on this item:**

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