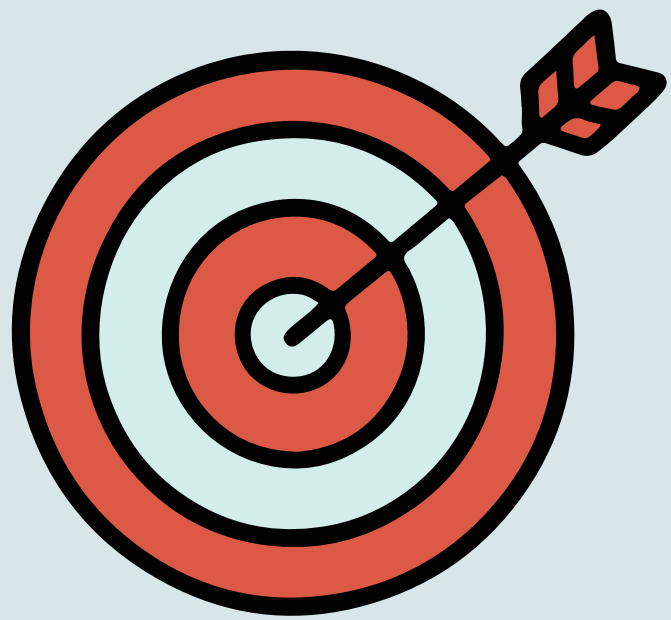


8 NYCRR § 100.2

New York State P-12
Learning Standards
Authority



Purpose:

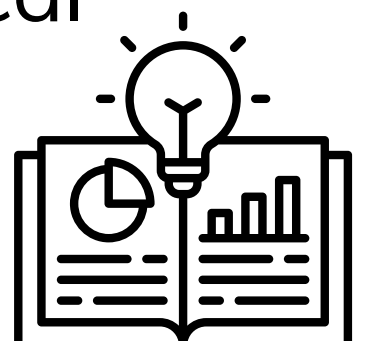
8 NYCRR § 100.2 establishes the New York State P-12 Learning Standards, which are defined by the academic disciplines that must be taught in public schools in New York. The Arts (which include music education) are explicitly stated among the mandatory content areas, meaning that music is considered part of a complete academic education. Therefore, this regulation guarantees that arts education is integrated into the public school education system in New York since music is included in the statewide academic standards.

Context:



The New York State Education Department establishes clear benchmarks across all grade levels that serve to define basic skills for every public-school student. The universal framework for education provides equal opportunities for students from different regions, along with the development of analytical skills and musical reasoning. Incorporating music within the matrix of disciplines for the state acknowledges the distinct importance of sound and melody in developing neural connections, historical thinking, literacy, and innovation.

The state framework champions an ongoing learning pathway from Pre-K all the way to graduation so that students can develop artistic literacy. Local administrators use these standards to create custom local curriculums that recognize student progress in different artistic forms.



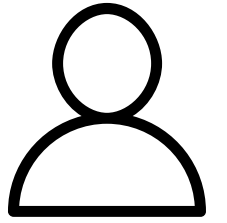
What is the impact?



Policy Actions

- This regulation requires that independent school districts adjust the local curriculum design and pathway for learning to fully embrace the NYS P-12 Learning Standards. The instruction should ensure that students develop proficiency in 4 foundational artistic processes: creating, performing, responding, and connecting.
- It is the responsibility of the academic administrator to assess the curriculum on a regular basis to ensure that the classroom agenda includes provision for a diverse array of students including accommodations for gifted students, instructional techniques for MLs, and acceleration programs for fast learners
- The state requirement sets the tone for professional development expectations and the training programs of post-secondary educators.

Who is affected?



All students enrolled in the public schools from Pre-K through grade 12 will be affected because the state now formally recognizes their right to sequential arts literacy.

Indirectly affected by the standards are teacher-preparation programs that will have to make a conscious effort to ensure that their curricula for teachers-in-training match up to those of New York State's standards. Moreover, this goes for any municipal cultural groups as well as other artistic organizations outside the realm of education.

Why does this policy matter?

This policy reiterates the constitutional obligation of New York State to provide all children enrolled in school with a "sound basic education." In legal interpretation by the judiciary in New York, there is clear indication that the comprehensive learning framework should include cultural and creative subjects along with conventional ones. The incorporation of music standards into the comprehensive curriculum will legally ensure that artistic education is a core requirement for human development. Exposure to the subject of music early on helps develop analytical skills, spatial awareness, team communication, and critical thinking. Making sure that music programs are part of the curriculum in public schools is one way of ensuring equality in the education system.



Limitations:

Whereas standards set by the state outline the academic benchmarks for music education, the state framework does not guarantee a standardized period for teaching every single day. Additionally, depending on the use of independent school district taxes for funding, there may be disparities in funding, despite efforts made by state Foundation Aid formulas to balance them out. It means that each individual public school is granted extensive independence with regards to resource management.

Sources:

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<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2023/S6712/amendment/original>
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