

Louisiana Arts Education School Survey



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The survey was available online at Survey Monkey from May 28, 2009 to August 14, 2009. Participation was encouraged but not mandated by any federal or state governed agency and all respondents were solicited online. The survey was sent to district-level superintendents and art specialist coordinators, who were asked to distribute the information and a link to the survey to principals and assistant principals in their district.

A total of 154 respondents completed the survey. Respondents were asked to complete demographic information to facilitate an understanding of the participants in this survey. No individuals or organizations are identified by name in final reports or any publicly published outcomes and no names were shared with other organizations. The survey was commissioned by the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development and conducted by KID smART, a nonprofit arts education organization based in New Orleans.

2. In what parish is your school located?

154 responses were recorded for 19 parishes including:

Ascension	East Feliciana	St. Martin
Beauregard	Jackson	St. Mary
Caddo	Jefferson Davis	Vermilion
Caldwell	LaSalle	Vernon
Cameron	Lafayette	Washington
East Baton Rouge	Orleans	
East Carroll	Sabine	

3. For statistical purposes only, please estimate the composition of the student population at your school. (N=149)

Answer Options	Response Average
Caucasian (%)	33.54
African American (%)	63.53
Asian/Asian American (%)	2.44
Native American (%)	1.19
Hispanic/Latino (%)	3.75
Mixed Race/Multi-racial (%)	1.19
Other (%)	0.63

4. What percentage of your students currently receives free lunch? (N=147)

Answer Options	Response Average
% Free lunch	78.22

5. Please indicate in what type of school(s) you work. (N=148)

Answer Options	Response Percent
High School	28.4%
Middle School	31.8%
Elementary School	54.1%
Alternative School	4.7%

6. Approximately what percentage of teachers at your school have more than three years of experience? (N=150)

Average of responses reported was 78.78%; Median = 86% Responses ranged between 5-100%

7. What is your best estimate of your school's annual operating budget for 2008-2009? (N=83)

Though the average of reported operating budgets by 81 respondents was \$6,130,078.60, the statistical median was \$200,000. An adjusted average of \$425,750 was derived from schools with reported budgets of \$10,000 to \$2,700,000. "Outlier" data (likelihood of a misunderstanding by the respondent of the question or a mistake in entering the self-reported data) ranged from budgets of \$300 to \$400,308,991.

8. What is your school's projected annual operating budget for 2009-2010? (N=98)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Less than \$500,000	67.3%
\$500,001 - \$750,000	4.1%
\$750,001 - \$1,000,000	1.0%
\$1,000,001 - \$1,500,000	7.1%
\$1,500,001 - \$2,500,000	8.2%
\$2,500,001 - \$5,000,000	5.1%
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	1.0%
\$10,000,001 - \$15,000,000	1.0%
\$15,000,001 - \$20,000,000	1.0%
More than \$20,000,000	2.0%
\$350,000,001 - \$500,000,000	1.0%
Over 500,000,000	1.0%

9. What is your best estimate of the cost-per-child expenses at your school? (N=81)

Responses ranged from \$15 – \$984,500. The average of all reported data was **\$14,978.65**. However the statistical median was **\$1300**. When outliers (of entries under \$100 and over \$12,000) were discarded the average was approximately **\$3347.44**

10. What is the highest level of education you have achieved? (N=126)

Answer Options	Response Percent
2 Years College	0.0%
3 Years College	0.0%
Bachelors Degree	4.0%
Master's	77%
Specialist in Ed	13.5%
Ph.D or Ed.D	5.6%

11. Does your school receive funding from any other sources other than district, state or federal allocations? (N=111)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Corporate Gifts	25.2%
Public or Private/Family Foundations	18%
Individual Donors	38.7%
Parent Associations	39.6%
Alumni	11.7%
Grants	67.6%
Teacher contributions	15.3%
Fund-raising events	83.8%

12. Do you have a specific budget allocation for arts education? (N=123)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	39.8%
No	51.2%
I'm not certain.	8.9%

13. If you have a budget allocation for arts education, please indicate how the money is used. (Check all that apply): (N=57)

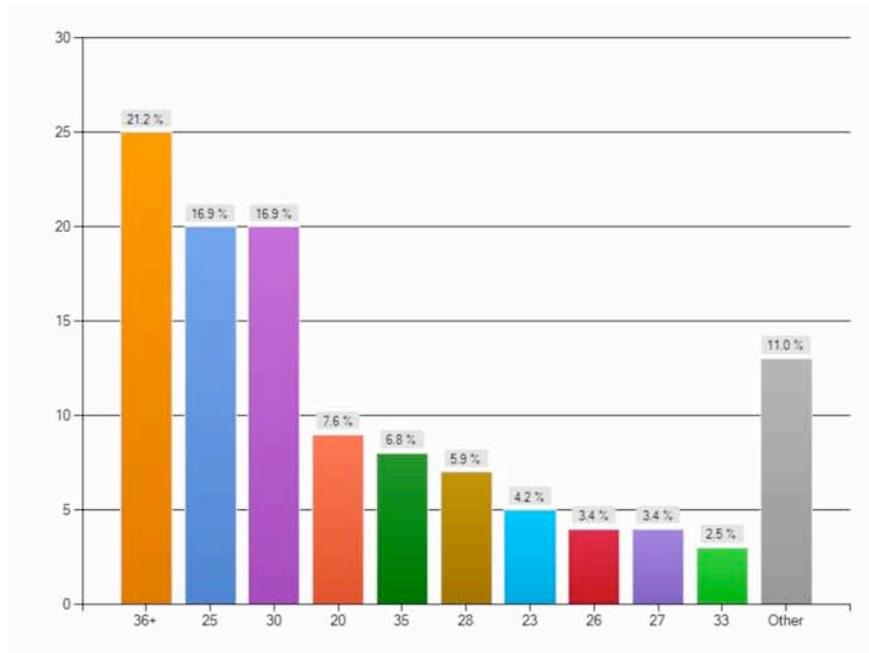
Answer Options	Response Percent
Field trips	29.8%
Arts assemblies (professional arts groups)	21.1%
Musical instruments	45.6%
Art supplies/materials	87.7%
Artist(s) in residence / Teaching Artists	8.8%
Professional development for teachers	21.1%
To hire a full-time arts specialist	21.1%

To hire a part-time arts specialist	7.0%
Arts Curricula	26.3%

14. On average, how many minutes long is a typical class period? (N=120)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Less than 45 minutes	5.0%
45-54 minutes	36.7%
55-89 minutes	26.7%
90 minutes or more	31.7%

15. How many HOURS PER WEEK are devoted to the instruction of core curriculum subjects? (N=118)



Number of hours/week

16. Given the demands of the core curriculum, what is the maximum number of hours per week that students can devote to the study of visual and performing arts during the academic day? (N=118)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Less than 1 hour	27.1%
1 hour	23.7%
2 hours	17.8%

3 hours	8.5%
4 or more hours	22.9%

17. Is instruction of courses offered in the visual and performing arts considered as part of the core curriculum or as extracurricular? (N=116)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Core curriculum	19.8%
Extracurricular activity	34.5%
Both core curriculum and extracurricular activity	45.7%

18. Does your school have dedicated classroom space(s) for arts instruction in the following four discipline areas? (N=122)

Answer Options	Yes	No
Art	67.2% (82)	32.8% (40)
Music	68.3% (82)	31.7% (38)
Dance	9.9% (11)	90.1% (100)
Theater	21.4% (24)	78.6% (88)

19. Are there opportunities for students to receive instruction in visual and performing arts courses as extracurricular/after-school activities? (N=116)

After School Activity	Yes (%)	No (%)
Art	32	67.3
Music	48.7	51.3
Dance	38.7	61.3
Theater	35.7	64.3

20. Is inter-disciplinary learning encouraged? If so, how? Please give specific examples. (N=64)

Answer Options	Response Count
Yes	79.6%
No	20.3%

Some examples of responses included: Collaboration between teachers, supplementing curriculum with programs by outside performers and instructors, and having students complete or experience visual and performing arts projects in conjunction with study of core curriculum subjects (e.g. creating a mural in a history class).

21. At present, which of the following opportunities in the VISUAL ARTS are available to your students? Please check all that apply. (N=88)

Answer Options	Response Percent
General Art	93.2%
Digital Art	13.6%
Art History (AP)	13.6%
Studio Art (AP)	9.1%

22. At present, which of the following opportunities in DANCE are available to your students? Please check all that apply. (N=53)

Answer Options	Response Percent
General Dance	41.5%
Dance Team	71.7%

23. At present, which of the following opportunities in THEATER are available to your students? Please check all that apply. (N=39)

Answer Options	Response Percent
General Theater	87.2%
Stage Acting	46.2%
Technical Theater	12.8%

24. At present, which of the following opportunities in MUSIC are available to your students? Please check all that apply. (N=94)

Answer Options	Response Percent
General Music	56.4%
Chorus/Choir	59.6%
Band	66.0%
Orchestra	17.0%
Music Theory/Comp/Songwriting	7.4%
Music Technology	4.3%
Music History	11.7%

25. Is there an advanced placement program in the arts? (N=115)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	11.3%
No	77.4%
N/A	11.3%

26. Does your school offer SUMMER ENRICHMENT programs in the arts? (N=118)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	18.6%
No	81.4%

27. If you answered "yes" to the question above, do summer enrichment programs incorporate the State Standards for what students should know and be able to do in the arts? (If you answered "no," please choose "N/A") (N=75)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	13.3%
No	14.7%
N/A	72.0%

28. How many FULL-TIME arts specialists do you have teaching visual and/or performing arts courses at your school? (N=117)

Discipline	Full time specialist Paid by school			Full time specialist Paid by grant		
	None	One	Two (or more)	None	One	Two (or more)
Visual Art	49.1%	36.8%	14.1%	98%	1%	1%
Music	39.1%	40.0%	20.9%	99%	1%	0%
Dance	91.2%	6.9%	1.9%	97.9%	2.1%	0%
Theater	85.6%	12.5%	1.9%	96.9%	2.1%	1%

29. How many PART-TIME arts specialists do you have teaching visual and/or performing arts courses at your school? (N=110)

Discipline	Part-time specialist Paid by school			Part-time specialist Paid by grant		
	None	One	Two (or more)	None	One	Two (or more)
Visual Art	84%	13.2%	2.8%	98%	2%	0%
Music	79.8%	15.4%	4.8%	98%	1%	1%
Dance	94.1%	5.9%	0%	96%	4%	0%
Theater	94.2%	4.9%	0.9%	92.1%	5%	2.9%

30. Does your school use volunteers or uncertified instructors to teach visual and performing arts courses? N=117)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	12%

No	88%
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31. Are instructors required to take professional development training each year? (N=115)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	62.6%
No	37.4%

32. Please indicate the number of hours required for professional development training each academic year. If your answer to the previous question was "no," please choose "0." (N=110)

Answer Options	Response Percent
0	39.1%
1-5	11.8%
6-10	10.9%
11-15	6.4%
16-20	7.3%
21-25	3.6%
26	20.9%

33. Does your school district provide professional development opportunities for instructors in the visual and performing arts? (N=110)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	46.4%
No	53.6%

34. If the district requires professional development for its instructors, what opportunities are available to teachers? Please check all that apply. (N=95)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Faculty In-service days	81.1%
Regional or national conferences	48.4%
Workshops	73.7%
Seminars	43.2%
CLU or other professional certification	67.4%
We do not require professional development for instructors.	12.6%

35. In your opinion, what professional development opportunities in the performing and visual arts would be of assistance to teachers and administrators at your school? Please check all that apply. (N=103)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Arts concepts, skills, techniques	61.2%
Arts instruction: methodology and approaches for teaching in the arts	56.3%
Ongoing criteria-based arts assessments	37.9%
Arts integration: how to teach concepts that appear in arts and in other core subject areas (e.g. symmetry in dance and math, etc.)	83.5%
Understanding how arts instruction affects school climate and student performance.	65.0%

36. Are instructors of core curriculum subjects currently incorporating aspects of the visual and performing arts in their classroom instruction? (N=117)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	47.0%
No	33.3%
Unsure	19.7%

37. Please check UP TO FOUR (4) of the factors below that might currently impact your district's ability to integrate the visual and performing arts in core curriculum instruction. (N=115)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Awareness	32.2%
Access to training	29.6%
Certification	17.4%
Funding	90.4%
Transportation	13.0%
Parent Support	7.8%
Principal support	3.5%
Space/Facilities	65.2%
Access to materials and supplies	54.8%
Qualified artists and teachers	48.7%
Other (please comment)	6.1%

38. Does your school have an approved list or directory of visual and performing artists available to provide programming and services? (N=114)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	17.5%
No	82.5%

39. If so, what answer best describes the primary information source for these service providers? If you answered "no" to the previous question, please choose "We do not have a directory" as your response. (N=78)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Arts Council	30.8%
Parent association referrals	2.6%
Compiled by District Arts Specialist Coordinator	5.1%
Online/Internet resources	5.1%
Artists contacted District directly	3.8%
We do not have a directory	73.1%

40. Does your school actively collaborate with specific area cultural institutions? If so, please list some of the partner institutions. (N=113)

Responses included museums, music foundations and archives, theater and opera associations, arts councils, offices of tourism, chambers of commerce, poetry slam groups and area festivals.

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	38.1%
No	61.9%

41. Does your school offer programs or awards that spotlight the accomplishments of students in the visual and performing arts? If so, please describe. (N=66)

Responses included display of student work, performances and concerts for school programs as well as for the community, awards during academic achievement ceremonies.

42. Does your school encourage participation in district, statewide or national competitions in the visual and performing arts? (N=112)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	69.6%
No	30.4%

43. Are parents actively involved in the day-to-day operations of your school? (N=111)

Answer Options	Response Percent
Yes	51.4%
No	48.6%

44. How would you characterize the level of family/guardian volunteer participation in the arts at your school (mark one for each statement)? (N=115)

Parent involvement was marked **Strong, Moderate, Weak, None or Not Applicable (N/A)** for the following areas: 1) Assist with arts instruction; 2) Participate in arts field trips; 3) Assist with before- or after-school programs or events; 4) Attend school arts events; 5) Serve on arts advisory councils; 6) Participate in family-oriented arts education activities offered by the school (e.g. family arts class, family dance night, arts fairs/festivals, etc.); 7) Share their opinions regarding their children's arts education needs; and 8) Assist with fundraising efforts to support arts education.

For all areas it was apparent that parental involvement is present but minimal – the highest percentage (over 30%) for almost every section fell in the “none” category. That said, parents' involvement was greatest for attending school art events and participating in arts field trips.

45. How supportive do you feel the students' parents/guardians would be of additional efforts to incorporate the arts in the classroom? (N=117)

	Enthusiastic	Somewhat positive	Indifferent	Somewhat negative	Very resistant
Parent response	42.7%	35.0%	21.4%	0.9% (1)	0.0% (0)

46. How would the teachers respond to having the opportunity for additional training and resources to assist them in incorporating the visual and performing arts during active class time? (Assume no cost to participants.) (N=115)

	Enthusiastic	Somewhat positive	Indifferent	Somewhat negative	Very resistant
Teacher Response	34.8%	48.7%	5.2%	9.6%	1.7%

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