



CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

JACK O'CONNELL
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

December 19, 2008

Dear Select County and District Superintendents of Schools, and Direct Funded Charters:

ARTS AND MUSIC BLOCK GRANT FUNDING

The Arts and Music Block Grant funds are allocated to local educational agencies (LEAs) to be used as provided in Senate Bill 77, (Chapter 171, Statutes of 2007) to support standards-aligned instruction in arts and music. Funds may be used for: (1) hiring additional staff; (2) purchasing new materials, books, supplies, and equipment; and (3) implementing or increasing staff development opportunities. These funds are ongoing and are to supplement, not supplant, existing resources for arts and music. There is no deadline for the expenditure of these funds; therefore they may be carried over to a future FY unless legislative action withdraws funding.

Third Apportionment for Fiscal Year 2007-08

A new requirement for the FY 2007-08 funding provides that, as a condition of receipt of funds, LEAs must submit an Arts and Music Block Grant Summary Report to the California Department of Education (CDE) no later than February 2, 2008.

We appreciate those districts, direct-funded charters, and county offices of education that submitted their Arts and Music Block Grant Summary Reports. You made it possible for the CDE to submit the Arts and Music Block Grant Legislative Report to the Legislature.

First Apportionment for Fiscal Year 2008-09

In January 2009, your district will be receiving their first apportionment for the Arts and Music Block Grant Summary Report FY 2008-09. This memorandum is to inform you that if your district does not submit the Arts and Music Block Grant Summary Report by **February 2, 2009**, it will be invoiced for the return of the first apportionment of 50 percent of the estimated entitlement apportionment. We also want to inform you that as with all funding allocated in every FY, the funding amounts are subject to budget, administrative, and legislative adjustments. The Legislature may impose mid-year reductions due to California's fiscal crisis.

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The 2007-08 Arts and Music Block Grant Legislative Report, FAQs, and Summary Report template for FY 2008-09 will soon be posted on the CDE Visual and Performing Arts Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/pd/ca/vp/>.

Please direct funding or program questions to Nancy Carr, Education Programs Consultant, at 916-445-5669 or by e-mail at ncarr@cde.ca.gov. Fiscal questions should be directed to Clifton Davis, Associate Governmental Program Analyst, at 916-323-5808 or by e-mail at cdavis@cde.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Marcela Obregon-Enriquez, Education Administrator I
Curriculum Leadership Office

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