

Keeneyville Elementary School District 20

Fine Arts Philosophy Statement

Throughout time, the arts have been essential to human existence. The creative process inherent in the arts, provides for self-expression, divergent thinking, and the ability to make connections to the whole of education. Every society throughout history has communicated through the universal language of the arts. The arts serve as a window to understand the past, a mirror to reflect the present, and a crystal ball to anticipate the future of society.

It is not only important that elementary students understand why the Fine Arts exist, but also how to create various forms of the arts that are meaningful. In the arts, students, using multiple intelligences and divergent thinking, deal with ambiguity, solve problems from multiple perspective and engage in speculative inquiry. Students learn to read, decode and use complex symbol systems, distinctive from, yet related to, other areas of learning. When students create sounds, images, gestures, and words, they discover ways to shape and share their feelings with others as well as gain an understanding of their feelings. Using the artists' tools, techniques, and processes, students give form to new and creative ideas.

In District 20, students studying the Fine Arts will broaden their self-concepts as they become self-directed, self-nurturing individuals. (Keeneyville Elementary School District 20 Graduate Profile)

Draft April 29, 2003