



ABC PROJECT

Arts in Basic Curriculum

SC Arts
Commission

SC Dept of
Education

Winthrop
University

www.ABCProjectSC.com

Definitions of Arts Schools

In 2002, the ABC Coordinating Committee created definitions for arts schools. This was in response to ABC Sites and other schools requesting clear definitions of arts schools.

Arts Centered

The arts are used as a focal point for the identity and image of a school. An arts focused school stresses competencies in all the arts (dance, media arts, music, theatre, visual arts and creative writing) and ensures that the arts are aligned with the general education core of the school. The arts are a hub of the main activities within a school and provide in-depth exposure of the arts for all students. *(A comprehensive, sequential arts program)*

Arts Integrated

The arts are incorporated into the general education curriculum and are used to enhance the understanding of areas of study outside of the arts disciplines themselves, as well as in-depth learning in the arts (dance, media arts music, theatre, visual arts and creative writing).

Types of Arts Integration: (Excerpts from Wiggins, 2001)

- Teaching-tool integration: One discipline serves the other by providing a vehicle through which knowledge can be efficiently learned and remembered.
- Topical integration: Specific topic from one discipline is determined where connective and interactive relationships among disciplines are explored.
- Thematic integration: A concept is chosen and then knowledge and skills that support the concept from different disciplines are sought.

Arts Infused

The arts enhance the education of every student and improve the general curriculum, as well as in-depth learning in the arts (dance, media arts, music, theatre, visual arts and creative writing). An arts infused school disseminates and permeates the arts into the traditions and experiences that are at the core of every program within the school. Arts and non-arts disciplines mutually support and enhance each other through constant planning and collaboration.

Members of the 2002 Coordinating Committee who created the ABC Arts Schools definitions:
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