

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
INFORMATIONAL REPORT

DECISION ON ACTION REPORT FROM THE GENERAL CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

MIDDLE SCHOOL DRAMA CURRICULUM

March 18, 2024

Background Information:

The Office of Fine Arts offers all students the opportunity to participate in robust academic Art, Dance, Drama, and Music experiences that support and deeply enrich the education of the whole child throughout their career of educational experiences in Harford County Public Schools.

Our Middle Schools currently support and continually produce evidence of superior performances and assessments in band, chorus, and orchestra curricular experiences. In support of the Middle School Innovation Plan, which is aligned to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, the Office of Fine Arts offered to all middle school students an experience in Drama. This 10-week Beginning Drama Course for grades 6-8 will also support student choice, engagement, and overall success in student learning and preparation for High School.

Feedback from students, teachers, and administrators has shown a positive impact on student motivation in learning, not only in their drama class but their general academic classes as well. Students have a greater interest in attending school and therefore improving overall attendance rates, and teachers have indicated that the addition of drama classes has improved their pedagogy in teaching in the arts.

This proposed action will build a bridge for middle school students moving to high school that will enhance and support the learner attributes of the North Star Student and Blueprint post CCR pathways.

Discussion:

At their May 16, 2023, meeting, the General Curriculum Committee approved the request from the Office of Fine Arts to move forward with the Drama Curriculum, awarding pilot status.

Requested Action:

The Office of Fine Arts requests regular status for a 10-week Beginning Drama Course Curriculum in grades 6-8.