



The Office of Fine Arts Middle School Drama Curriculum

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Supervisor



BACKGROUND

- 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.
- 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.



Background Summary

All students in our 9 middle schools have the opportunity to participate in robust academic Art and Music experiences.

Middle School Principals were surveyed and suggested adding Beginning Drama as a Unified Arts course offering.


If approved, this course will add student choice and for many, will encourage them to stay in school because the arts give them voice and a stronger sense of belonging.

Studies have shown that Fine Art Students often perform at a high level on state testing in English/Language Arts Literacy, Math, and Science.

This proposed action will also build a bridge that enhances and supports the learner attributes of the North Star Student and BluePrint post CCR pathways.



Middle School Beginning Drama Course

 A 10-week course based on the HS Beginning Drama Course which will give students an introduction to:

- Acting Skills—Finding Your Voice
- Stage Directions—Finding Your Way Around a Performance Venue
- Make-Up and Costumes
- Producing Plays and Shows
- Dramatic Readings
- History of Theatre Genres
- Technical Aspects—including Lights and Sound
- Enhancing English/Language Literacy through writing Plays and Shows.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Aside from Teacher PD, there is no financial requirement for this action.
- Link to the main page for HCPS.org
 - [MS Drama on HCPS.org](#)
- Evaluation—we will continue to work on updates via teacher and student feedback.



Request

- The Office of Fine Arts is requesting Regular Status for the Middle School Drama Course, grades 6-8, in all Harford County Public Middle Schools beginning with the 2024-25 school year.