

ADE Arts Coordinators Meeting  
Mesa Convention Center  
1/09/2010 2-4 pm.

Attended: Lynn Monson

Presenter: Bob Morrison

1. Arts Survey: Data released in July. It will give us data on all students, all subjects, all teachers. AZ. is the only state that revealed a discrepancy between low and high economic status. Students who are from a low economic status don't have the same access to arts as students from a higher economic status.
2. For 2010-11, anticipate 15-25% cuts.
3. Clarify expectations - for elementary, delivered by specialist.
4. Check out Arizona Citizens for the Arts Website – [www.azcitizensforthearts.org](http://www.azcitizensforthearts.org)

Advocacy: Things to do now.

1. Present unified approach – all arts working together. Speak with one voice.
2. Know the % of students in your program. Numbers speak.
3. Proportionality: if the only dance teacher at a school is cut, the program is gone. Dance has lost 100% as opposed to math losing 20% if only 1 of 5 math teachers is cut. But be careful, don't pit one subject against another. And it pits teachers against teachers. It's not about either or.
4. Make your program visible.
5. Attend school board meetings. Be knowledgeable. Work to get new governing board members if need be.
6. Get on district committees that oversee budgets. Learn about budgets.
7. Make your voice a positive one instead of blaming.
8. Be wary of the wording "we are going to change the way we deliver the program." Example, instead of starting a program in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, it will start in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. They are not cutting the program but changing the delivery of it. But this could be devastating to the program.
9. Secretive administration: Get a parent to talk to the newspaper in confidence. The newspaper cannot break confidentiality so it can't be tied back to you. Do this off school technology – email, web etc. You don't want the administration to connect it back to a parent of a student in your program.
10. If cuts have to be made, suggest non-student centered, ones that don't affect people. Core quality of instruction is kept.
11. Get parents to help solve problems. Example: if you know of a parent that works in business or accounting, have them look at the school budget. They may be able to find ways to save and cut that don't affect students.

12. Talk economics. Highlight how enrollment will be affected by cuts. With Arizona's open enrollment, parents do leave schools for lack of programs and go to schools for programs they want.
13. Gather your own data.
14. If an override has not passed and it is back up, get mobilized to help it pass.