A Well-Rounded Education (as defined under the ESSA) includes Visual and Performing Arts and Physical Education as essential to the social/emotional and academic well-being of every student. It is the guidance of the Arizona Department of Education that Arts and Physical Education teachers and leaders will:

- Participate in district re-entry planning and ongoing professional development in response to COVID-19. Leadership should consult content experts when developing re-entry plans.
- Teach the Arizona State standards in all Arts and Physical Education subject areas with sufficient time to develop students’ artistic & physical literacy, knowing that modification is required to develop safe, equitable, and cost-effective instruction for all students, in-person, online, or blended.
- Create and deliver essential well-rounded curriculum following guidance from State and National Arts and Physical Education Associations and state and local health and safety experts, to support the social/emotional well-being and academic growth of every Arizona student.

Modification Recommendations:

All Arts and Physical Education courses can be modified to meet all students’ health, emotional, and academic needs, regardless of a student’s socio-economic status, ability, or background. Therefore, it is recommended schools:

- Include teachers in content-specific professional development and planning to develop distance learning, blended learning, hybrid learning, or flipped classrooms.
- Re-prioritize curriculum to focus on individualized student learning targets.
- When possible, have students use personal equipment/supplies. When not possible, have teachers use recommended sanitation guidelines for shared student equipment.
- Provide sanitizing protocols and supplies for all teaching areas.
- Provide distance-learning resources that best match population and needs of students and educators for all teaching areas.
- Follow safety guidance from National Arts and Physical Education organizations (see resources and references section).
- At minimum, sustain current levels of funding as part of a student’s right to a Well-Rounded Education.
Performing Arts (Dance, Music, Theatre)

The goal of arts education is to develop students’ artistic literacy. In the performing arts disciplines of dance, music, and theatre, the artistic processes of creating, performing, responding, and connecting outlined in state standards provide educators with significant flexibility. The following student safety considerations can ensure the continued development of students' artistic literacy:

- Consider portions of a class be done outside to provide more social distancing, weather permitting.
- Exclude activities that require physical contact from lesson plans.
- Use markings on the floor or and/or student workstations to adhere to social distance requirements in classrooms requiring movement.
- Develop live-performance alternatives or substitutes that meet ‘Performing’ state standards, following national guidelines.
- Follow the Instrument Cleaning Guidelines and Information released by NFHS, NAfME, and NAMM.
- Give special consideration to locker room/dressing room/green room usage and sanitation.

Visual Arts (Including Media Arts)

The goal of arts education is to develop students’ artistic literacy. In the visual arts disciplines of visual and media arts, the artistic processes of creating, presenting/producing, responding, and connecting outlined in state standards provide educators with significant flexibility. The following student safety considerations can ensure the continued development of students' artistic literacy:

- Develop art exhibition alternatives or substitutes that meet ‘Presenting’ state standards, following national guidelines.
- Follow CDC and national guidelines regarding cleaning of shared materials and spaces.

Physical Education

The overarching goal of physical education is to ensure that school-aged youth
become physically literate individuals who possess the skills, knowledge and dispositions to lead physically active lives. The development of physically literate students provides educators with significant flexibility. The following student safety considerations can ensure the continued development of students’ physical literacy:

- Designate separate areas in open spaces; use floor marking in teaching spaces (student sections/workstations).
Arizona Department of Education
(AZ Arts and Physical Education Re-Entry Guidelines)

- Exclude activities that require physical contact from lesson plans.
- Workstation equipment set-up should consider strategies for social distancing throughout activity.
- Give special consideration to locker room usage and sanitation.

Extended Learning Activities Related to Arts and Physical Education:
The recommendations should apply to before, during, and after-school times. This may include but is not limited to extracurricular, co-curricular, and cross-curricular activities, recess, and clubs.

Equity Statement
Equity emerges when an educational system includes all students, personnel, and stakeholders within a positive culture, and ensures full access for all students to participate in all school-related activities (Arizona Department of Education 2020).
Arizona Department of Education  
(AZ Arts and Physical Education Re-Entry Guidelines)

Arts & Physical Education Covid-19 Resources and References

National Arts Education Covid-19 Resources:
- American Alliance for Theatre in Education
- National Art Education Association
- National Association for Music Education
- National Dance Education Organization
- International Thespian Society

Arizona Arts Education Organizations:
- Arizona Music Educators Association
- Arizona Art Education Association
- Arizona Dance Education Organization
- Arizona Thespians

Arizona Physical Education Organization:
- Arizona Health and Physical Education

Arizona State Standards

Performing Arts Standards:
- Arizona Dance Education Standards
- Arizona Music Education Standards
  - General Music
  - Performing Ensemble
  - Harmonizing Instrument
  - Music Theory and Composition
  - Music Technology
- Arizona Theatre Arts Education Standards

Visual/Media Arts Standards:
- Arizona Media Arts Education Standards
- Arizona Visual Arts Education Standards

Physical Education Standards:
- Arizona Physical Education Standards