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# RTAC Fall Meeting



Monday, August 31, 2020

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## Attendees

Nathan Johnston, Co-Chair

Michelle Irvin, Co-Chair

Becky Vogel, Membership Chair

Dustin Loehr, ADE

Haley Honeman, ADE

Davis Simmons, [ubuproject.org](http://ubuproject.org)

Elizabeth Reynolds

Stephanie Sapakie, Gilbert Public Schools, Photography

Lynn Monson

Matthew L. Williams

Monica Sauer Anthony, Arizona School for the Arts, Arts Director

Karen Coleman

Anna Backstrom, Deer Valley Unified School District, Curriculum Specialist Fine Arts and Health

Leah Fregulia

Scott Burgener

Stephanie Campbell, Desert Ridge HS

Natalie Booth, Mesa Art Center

Julie Hackmann, Kyrene Public Schools, K-8 Arts Coordinator

Ben Lebovitz, Walden Grove HS

Teresa Minarich, Paradise Valley, Theatre Teacher

Naomi Wilbur, Highland Arts Elementary, K-3 General Music

Elise Kohli, President of AZ Art Ed

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## Agenda

1. ADE Reports:
  - a. Re-Opening Guideline development (RTAC & PEAR role)
  - b. Arts Seal Report
  - c. Physical Education Advisory Roundtable (PEAR)
  - d. Current status of Arts Education in schools - celebrations and struggles
  - e. Creative Schools Award - [DRAFT](#) (Haley)

## New Business

1. Arizona Citizens for the Arts Report
2. Arizona Art Commission Report
3. Professional Organization reports - current activities and plans for 20-21 school year
  - a. AzDEO
  - b. AAEA
  - c. AMEA
  - d. AzThespians

## Notes

Review of Agenda, Mission and Vision by Nathan Johnston

Review Job Descriptions and Bylaws Update - we will begin to work on these in the upcoming months

- Lynn Monson

Old Business - Instructional Minutes review by Michelle Irvin and Dustin Loehr)

- K-12 standards are interested in exploring instructional minutes with RTAC, it is on the collaborative agenda, but since everything is in flux at the moment we are on hold at the moment.
- We will nudge Dustin prior to next RTAC meeting for an update soon and work on preparing what is needed for the ADE

Letter Grade Update (A-F) - Becky Vogel

- Fine Arts Deal inclusion and other areas included
- Was told that we are still under the radar and it will be actively looked at when they are reviewing the A-F grades and support of inclusion of the Arts

ADE Report: (Dustin Loehr and Haley Honeman)

- Re-Opening Guidelines
  - We were one of the handful of states to publish Arts and Physical Education guidance for each artistic discipline. We had a great commitment of all of our stakeholders to help make that happen.
  - Is being posted by State Superintendent and Social Media
  - C Date is creating an interactive map that will have all states guidelines - to help support continued access to the Arts
  - Please use online link - it has the aerosol study results, which relates to masking of voices and instruments
  - In the bottom of the document, where it says the page numbers will show the latest updates) - bottom right hand corner
- Fine Arts Seal
  - Applications have been released and are open until September 15th
  - Numbers are low at the moment, but there is hope that there will be more in the next few weeks
- PEAR group (Physical Education version of RTAC)
  - Has only just begun and has had 1 or 2 meetings so far
  - They are very interested in collaborating together with A-F and Instructional Minutes in particular. We will make a stronger fight if we join together. ADE likes the collaboration of both areas.
  - Liaison between both groups - Michelle Irvin volunteered
  - They are working on a Physical Education Dashboard that is similar to the Arts Dashboard available on ADE - need of quantitative data to support their programs
- Current Status of Arts Education in schools
  - David Simmons (shared) - had been working with the theatre program - theatre and theatre educators roundtable to discuss Fall productions - organizing a live zoom production of alumni and others as they collaborated.
  - Haley Honeman - Richard Maxwell is doing open mic with his students that were live in the Spring. Kids performing and playing in the homes.
  - Worries about the amount of time to develop content and Asynchronous lessons.
  - Ben L. (Stated) - celebrate that the arts community is adapting well and that the students are continuing to connect with students. Concerns - amount of work is one concern, but some arts teachers are being asked to teach outside their field to support their schools. There are reductions in school numbers that teachers might be asked to teach out of their field.
    - How to help - collecting data of the number of students - are the numbers lower because of the online format to help support future possible staffing concerns if numbers are based on numbers at the moment
      - Haley stated that there was (17-18) school year 71% - held steady in (18-19) - it dipped to 60-70% in the (19-20) school year that could be related to COVID situation.
      - Dustin stated they will be updating the dashboard with that data - ADE feels pretty confident with that data
        - RTAC to think about comment on that data and how to advocate for the future of Arts as it recovers from COVID

- Julie H. commented on what type of steps we will take to support recruiting for the lower grades. Their numbers have dropped because the teachers were unable to recruit in the Spring and the Fall.
  - RTAC develop some ideas to support recruitment plans for elementary schools arts classes
- Dustin - suggest to look at New Jersey's Arts Ed website. They have some incredible resources and ideas for their schools. They are a non-profit and maybe a possible direction for RTAC to go in the future. They were soliciting teachers to contact their offices of issues, then they would publicly respond to those districts - in a very public, very vocal way. They were even responding at a National Level and calling other states where the arts are being cut.
  - <https://www.artsednj.org/>
- Nathan mentioned can we look at a Professional Development platform - help empower and lift up the voices of other organizations and students.
  - Could be an opportunity for RTAC to get a more digital presence - create a stronger identity and support.
  - Nathan is going to work on getting some ideas from everyone and work at develop and work on creating more presence- [njohnstonmusic@gmail.com](mailto:njohnstonmusic@gmail.com)
    - Ben L is highly supportive of collecting data from this digitally that could later be used to support arts teachers
- Creative Schools - Haley Honeman
  - Recognizing schools doing an excellent job at Arts Education
  - March 2021 Youth Arts Month Ceremony - Presentation of Winners
    - 12 winners (6 regions) K-8 award and a HS award
    - Criteria is explained in the powerpoint attached in Agenda
      - Media Arts not included this year
      - K-8 has a high percentage for Gold as it is an ESSA requirement to have 2 artistic disciplines for all students
      - There are 3 rounds
        - Round 1 - Initial Scoring Criteria
          - Scoring would be published
        - Round 2 - Of those schools they would be sent a feedback survey - instructional minutes, funding, PD, partnerships, arts-integration, classroom space, etc.
          - Award the winning schools or decide if we need a site visit
        - Round 3 - could or could not happen depending on Round 2 results.
    - Comments


- Watch yes or no questions - need to make sure we have them add descriptors
- Add some STEAM questions - there is a progression of STEM schools changing to STEAM schools
- RTAC would approve the recommended winners - RTAC would be giving the award out
- Modifying this year because of COVID situation. The data we are working off of would be last year's data. We are pushing to advocate publicly to support schools.
- Proposal to wait as everything is so in flux - Haley proposed that we do the 1st round data and then work on Round 2 data in the future.
  - Postpone full implementation **72%**
    - Only implement Round 1 - Gold, Silver, and Bronze
  - Full Steam Ahead
  - Full Stop
- (CONCERN) - large concern about school districts implementation of arts during COVID affecting the data for the 20-21 school year. We may need to re-evaluate the data with that in mind.

#### Reports from Professional Organizations:

- AzDEO - like everyone trying to figure out day to day. Looking at online opportunities. Leadership packets sent to teachers so that they can do at their own school. Dance Program Excellence - Valley Vista HS and Kino Junior High won the award
- AAEA - similar to dance everything has been moved to online. They have PD's and Happy Hour one a month. They currently offer PD for Free to all members. National Art Education - virtual conference is being planned at the moment. Membership will be able to participate. Postponing their Fall conference to Spring.
- AMEA - working on festivals and deciding if they will be online in-person. AMEA is partnering with other organizations to provide opportunities. AMEA sent out a letter to support continuing Music programs and received some great responses.
- AzOrff - planning 2 online sessions and 2 in-person sessions. They are finding great ways to work with the online format to create breakouts that allow for some smaller groups. The in person is still in question as they will be looking at data to make the best decisions.

#### Open Comments -

- State's expectation of online vs. in person expectations - answer: It is up to the individual LEA - it is always good to look at the re-opening guidance document, so that is good leverage if you have a concern.



<https://www.azed.gov/artseducation/files/2020/07/FINAL-Arts-Physical-Education-Reentry-A-Disciplined-Approach-to-Active-Creative-Learning.pdf>

- [https://www.azed.gov/communications/files/2020/03/FINAL-DRAFT-AZ-Roadmap-for-Reopening-Schools\\_6\\_1\\_20-1.pdf](https://www.azed.gov/communications/files/2020/03/FINAL-DRAFT-AZ-Roadmap-for-Reopening-Schools_6_1_20-1.pdf)
- <https://www.seadae.org/home/conferences/virtual-summit> - online virtual summit (½ day) September 25th - Arts and SEL - this will lead to future conferences.

## Action Items

1. A - F Check in - Becky Vogel
2. Instructional Minutes Check in - Michelle Irvin
3. Social Media/Digital Presence Project - Nathan Johnston
4. Creative Schools Follow Up - Haley Honeman

## Future Meetings

Leadership will work on future dates and communicated out - we will continue with Zoom meetings at this time

ESSA will be Virtual - pre-recorded sessions