

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

April 6, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Monifa B. McKnight, Interim Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Arts in the Virtual Academy (02-14-2022-02-A-4)

During the *Proposed Amendments to the Interim Superintendent's Recommended FY 2023 Operating Budget discussion*, Board members requested the following information.

Question

Ms. Harris requested information regarding: Please provide information regarding the arts programming that will be offered the Virtual Academy platforms referenced during the presentation.

Response

Montgomery County Public Schools is committed to serving our students and schools equitably in course offerings and performance opportunities in both virtual and in-person settings. Virtual Academy Fine Arts course offerings continue to allow access to performance and hands-on creativity. In collaboration with staff of the Virtual Academy, the Fine Arts office created new courses that include traditional concepts offered in traditional, in-person courses, but reflect the actual experience of students in the virtual setting and class expectations. The virtual environment limits full ensemble opportunities, however, the new courses created for the Virtual Academy allow more for individual skill and technique development. The addition of a Sculpture course, permits students who would traditionally experience ceramics to create in a 3D media without the need for clay, kilns, etc.

To aid in student access to courses, the Fine Arts office provided art equipment, art materials, and instruments that were not in use from the warehouse and continues to find ways to support student achievement in the arts.

Fine Arts Courses in the Virtual Academy

Elementary School

- Elementary General Music
- Elementary Art
- Elementary Instrumental Music for Grades 4 and 5

Middle School (new courses for FY 2023 are [in blue](#)):

- [Innovative Art & Design 1](#)
- [Innovative Art & Design 2](#)
- [Innovative Art & Design 3](#)

Middle School (continued)

- MS Dig Art Photography 1
- MS Dig Art Photography 2
- MS Digital Art 3
- MS Studio Art 1
- MS Studio Art 2
- MS Studio Art 3
- ALO Art 6
- ALO Art 7
- ALO Art 8

High School (new courses for FY 2023 are [in blue](#)):

- 2D Studio Art 1A
- Advanced Ceramic Sculpture 2
- [AP Art History](#)
- [AP Music Theory](#)
- [Art History](#)
- Sculpture 1
- Dance Fine Art
- Digital Art 1
- Advanced Digital Art 2
- Digital Art 3
- Foundation of Art and Culture
- [Music Perspectives](#)
- [Music Technology](#)
- Photography 1
- Piano HS 1
- Piano HS 2
- Theatre 1A HS
- Theatre 2A HS
- [ALO Art 10](#)
- [ALO Art 11](#)
- [ALO Art 12](#)
- [ALO Art 9](#)
- [ALO HS FINE ARTS](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Niki T. Hazel, associate superintendent of curriculum and instructional programs, Office of Teaching, Learning, and Schools, via email.

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Executive Staff
Ms. Webb