



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: January 14, 2026
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Principals, Curriculum Supervisors, Visual and Performing Arts Supervisors, Arts Educators
From: Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services
Deadline: February 28, 2026

Visual and Performing Arts Education Survey

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) will conduct the Visual and Performing Arts Education Survey to measure arts course offerings, student participation, dedicated arts resources, district policy, instructional support, and the extent to which community assets are utilized in New Jersey's schools. This will be the fifth time this survey has been conducted (2006, 2011, 2016, 2021). It is part of a broader Arts Education Census Project, a collaborative partnership between the NJDOE, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Arts Ed New Jersey, and Quadrant Research.

The Arts Education Census Project aims to gather, evaluate, and disseminate qualitative and quantitative data regarding the status and condition of arts education throughout New Jersey. The survey findings will be released in the spring of 2027. An in-depth analysis of school data will assist the NJDOE and its project partners in understanding the level of student involvement with the arts. Additionally, the survey data will help identify model programs across the state and facilitate the alignment of resources to identified need so that all students have equitable access to high-quality learning opportunities to help them meet or exceed the Visual and Performing Arts requirements of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

Key Steps/Actions

The 2026 Visual and Performing Arts Education Survey will be accessible online through the NJDOE's [Homeroom](#) webpage starting January 14, 2026. The submission window will close on February 28, 2026. The survey collects information about arts programs offered in each school within the district. Districts are encouraged to involve building principals or other school leaders to ensure accurate and complete data collection.

Contact Information

Please send questions to vparts@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group