

Fine, Visual and Performing Arts Program Information



MUSIC:

The Music Department faculty consists of seventeen teachers. Five teach primarily at the elementary level, seven at the intermediate level and five at the high school level. Several of the teachers travel between schools and grade levels, which provides continuity of programs for our students. There are 63 different music offerings in the Franklin Township Public Schools. In addition to the general music classes that all K - 6 students receive, the district has approximately 200 students enrolled in Band, 120 in Chorus, 175 in Strings, 125 in Guitar, and in 160 Piano Keyboard. All students, grades K - 6, take general music in a 42- minute class one time in a six-day

cycle. Instrumental Music begins in 5th grade. Students have the choice of playing a band or orchestra instrument. Franklin High School has unique offerings in Band and Orchestra, to include afterschool ensembles, AP Music Theory and Honors Piano I and II all due to increasing enrollments.

ART

There are 16 teachers in the Art Department. Four teach primarily at the elementary level, three at the intermediate/middle level, and nine at the high school.

All K – 6 students receive art instruction as part of the general curriculum. The middle school offers Art 7 and Art 8, which includes 2-D and 3-D art including ceramics. There are thirty-seven different art electives offered in the high school program. Approximately 1800 students from grades 7 – 12 are enrolled in full year, semester or marking period long art courses. All students have their artwork showcased in the Spring Semester at Art Shows within each school building. This evening event allows family, community and school members to relish in the artwork of our students. The Board of Education Building on Amwell Road displays student work in the *Gallery*. Student displays fill the building with an array of 2D and 3D pieces of art for all to enjoy. Student artwork is showcased in the Public Library and at the Somerset Municipal Building in Somerville after the Teen Arts Festival each May.

Theatre Arts:

The Theatre Arts faculty consists of two teachers; one at the high school and one at the middle school. In grade 7,

students can take an Introductory Theater I course for one semester. Students in 8th grade can elect a more advanced course in Theatre II for an additional semester of Theatre Arts instruction. The middle school produces a Fall Drama and Spring Musical where all students have the opportunity to audition. There are four levels of Theatre Arts instruction at FHS: Drama I, II, III and IV. An advanced course, Acting for Film and Television is offered to FHS students interested in working on WANT TV. This is our own TV studio where the drama students make daily productions that are shown to the school as the morning announcements. Sampson G. Smith School offers a powerful afterschool drama experience for their students. Topnotch musical theatre productions are created yearly. At the high school, the vocal music teacher takes responsibility for the extra-curricular high school drama and musical productions. The high school Theatre Arts teacher takes responsibility for special productions and student performances of monologues and One Act Plays. There are approximately 700 students enrolled in these courses.

DANCE

The Dance Faculty consists of seven members. Three teach in the elementary schools, two at the intermediate/middle level and two at the high school

level. The elementary teachers travel between schools to meet the needs of our district. In grade 7 – 8 students study contemporary or advanced dance as an elective. Dance classes at the high school include Dance I, Intermediate and

Advanced Electives. The Dance Program is currently in the process of creating a Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. There are approximately 400 students enrolled in these courses. Students also have the opportunity to join the Afterschool Hip-Hop club for additional dance opportunities at FMS and FHS. There is a compliment of extra-curricular Dance Troupe performance opportunities at all other schools. Each school sponsors a Dance Showcase for students to perform throughout the year. In June, the district supports a K – 12 Dance Showcase, which has run for the past 20 years. The community who fills the seats of the high school auditorium every year supports this culminating performance.

TV Production The Film and Television

Production Department employs one full-time teacher. The Aspects of Video courses plus Acting for Film and Television classes provide students an opportunity to record, create, edit and produce original film clips. WANT TV (Warrior Advertisement Network Television) provide school-wide coverage of important events, achievements and special events through their innovative programming. The TV Production Program is currently in the process of creating a Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. Each year ends with the AVA Award Ceremony to award outstanding student production in a variety of categories.

Many of our programs, students and teachers are award winners. The Franklin Township School District has several schools in the district name Model Schools for the Arts in the State of New Jersey due to the unique scheduling and opportunities the district continually provides for its students.

NEW JERSEY ARTS EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP MODEL SCHOOLS IN THE ARTS



Class of 2009:

Franklin High School
Franklin Middle School
Franklin Park School
Sampson G. Smith School
MacAfee Road School