

## Arts Advisory Committee Executive Summary, January 2020

### Past recommendations:

**ACI Approved Recommendation #2: Provide Physical Education Credit for Participation in Marching Band (Nov 2017 update** – *This recommendation was approved in Jan/Feb of 2016 and was to create a pilot at Yorktown High School in the fall of 2016. That was not implemented although APS staff were instructed to work on it to create a workable program for the following year. In the winter/spring of 2017, APS staff moved forward and the Arts Advisory Committee was told all APS high schools would offer this program in the fall of 2017, which did not occur.*) Although the School Board asked for the pilot the previous leadership reversed the direction of this plan. Allowing P.E. credit for Marching Band would alleviate crowding in high school P.E. classes, free up classroom/gymnasium/field space, and give school administrators as well as students increased flexibility in scheduling. In addition, the policy change would give students a chance to explore other interests while ensuring that their physical education needs are fully met *\*\*The state of Virginia **does** permit school districts and schools to allow students to substitute other activities for their required physical education credit, based on local district policy.*

<https://www.virtualvirginia.org/programs/courses/7400-health-and-pe-10/>

### PE/Health now offered online with Virtual Virginia

Students are required to obtain 60 hours of physical activity in this course. The physical activity is to be completed just as you would if you were completing the class as part of an instructional day in a brick-and-mortar building. Students will be required to provide proof of physical activity with their fitness log. Parent signatures will not be accepted as proof of physical activity. The student will need access to a Fitbit, Jawbone Up, Heart Rate Monitor, Nintendo Wii, or Cell Phone app such as MapMyWalk, MapMyRun, or MyFitnessPal to be used as proof of physical activity completion.

Fairfax and Alexandria have already offered online options for health and PE with students logging physical activity. <https://wtop.com/education/2020/01/gym-class-without-the-gym-with-technology-its-catching-on/>

Online Physical Education Courses: The state allows required physical education credits to be earned through online courses. Content must align with the Physical Education Standards of Learning for Virginia Public Schools. The courses are a local decision, developed by individual school divisions.

### **ACI Approved Recommendation #1: Establish line item funding for Visual Arts supplies that is consistent for all middle schools.**

**Status:** Although recommended by the ACI and approved by the school board the recommendation was not put into the APS budget in 2016 or 2017 - continuing to create inequity amongst MS arts funding. The arts ACI has also uncovered inequity in funding for HS arts programs.

The Arts Advisory committee will be bringing forth these two recommendations again as well MS Block Scheduling issues and recommendations, elementary choral accompanists, and additional arts staffing needs for Orchestra due to increased enrollment.