



## Committee to the Save Arts

April 29, 2024

Name

Address

Dear friends,

I am reaching out to you as a valued member of our community to join in a crucial effort to preserve the arts and music programs within our schools. Attached is a letter addressed to Edmonds School District officials and members of the School Board, expressing our distress at the impending cuts to these vital programs.

As parents, guardians, and concerned citizens, your support is invaluable. By adding your name to this letter, you are helping to demonstrate the widespread community concern about the importance of arts education. Research has shown that participation in arts programs leads to improved academic performance, reduced disciplinary issues, and increased empathy and compassion among students.

Engaging students in the arts not only shapes our community's cultural identity but also preserves it for future generations. Additionally, a strong arts education program can boost our local economy by attracting businesses and residents through a vibrant cultural scene, benefiting our community for years to come.

Your signature will show our school district leaders that the community stands united in its commitment to providing a comprehensive and enriching educational experience for our children.

I understand that our schools are facing challenging budget decisions. However, I believe that the arts are not just an optional extra but a fundamental part of a well-rounded education. By signing this letter, you are joining a critical cause to urge the school district to prioritize the restoration of funding for these invaluable programs as soon as possible.

Please consider adding your name to this important letter. Together, we can make a difference and ensure that the arts remain an integral part of our children's education.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jack Faris

Foundation for Edmonds School District P. O. Box 390 Lynnwood WA 98046  
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April 29, 2024

To Edmonds School District officials and members of the School Board,

As members of the broad and diverse community served by the Edmonds School District, we wish to register our distress at the pending cuts to arts and music programs. You, as educators, know as well as we do that art, music, drama and other arts are vital to a full educational experience. This is not merely our heartfelt conviction; it is a fact supported by rigorous research. For example, a recent large scale randomized controlled study by Brookings in 42 Houston schools found that students in arts programs had significantly fewer disciplinary infractions, significantly better writing scores, and elevated compassion for others compared to the control groups.

We do understand that schools today face competing priorities and serious financial pressures. We, and others in the community, are prepared to support the continuation of vital arts education, and the retention of dedicated and valuable teaching staff, while the district works through its budget difficulties. But we expect, and insist, that the schools we are committed to support with our dollars and our votes plan to restore funding of these invaluable arts programs as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Edmonds School District parents and citizens,

Dr. Jack Faris

Second individual

Third individual

And etc...