

To the Vermont State Board Of Education:

As an active Vermont Arts Educator working with high school students, I applaud your efforts to make our system more equitable and diverse. However, I feel that some of those proposed changes may actually make it harder for me to provide equitable arts education for my students.

Please consider revising the way the Curriculum Content section covers arts education. The Arts must have its own section which impacts students K-12. These should include : Visual Art, Theater, Music and Dance- 4 subject areas with minimum class requirements. This is very similar to Physical Education and Library. While the Arts most certainly relate intersectionality yo many cultural studies, the Art are also immeasurably valuable in their OWN right.

Please also protect teachers and the arts content by addresibg maximum class loads in the arts. This would vary for discipline and developmental level, k-8 and 9-12. In addition, mandating that schools with more than 300 student have a full time Arts educator would help address equity and provide quality learning for all.

Sincerely,

Emily Mitchell  
VT Art Educator  
CVU