



# PERPICH

## House Education Finance Committee Presentation

**March 3, 2026**

Allegra Smisek, Executive Director

John Toop, Finance Director

Betsy Anderson, Communications Director



**PERPICH**



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SOP  
XXXXXXXXXX  
M.A.P.

There was an  
old woman

*Our mission is to provide all Minnesota students the opportunity to develop, enhance, and integrate their artistic and academic abilities to their highest potential.*

## **To achieve this mission, we will...**

### **Elevate**

artistic and  
academic  
excellence  
through a culture  
of belonging.

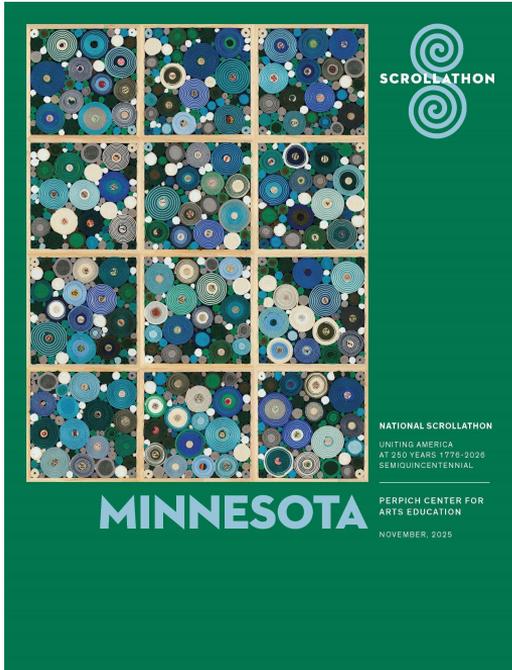
### **Cultivate**

connections and  
boldly tell our  
story.

### **Optimize**

systems to  
support a  
thriving,  
future-ready  
state agency.

# Selected to Represent Minnesota in the Celebration of Our Nation's 250th Year



Perpich Center for Arts Education

40th Anniversary

OPEN HOUSE

Perpich Center for Arts Education

Saturday, September 13, 2025

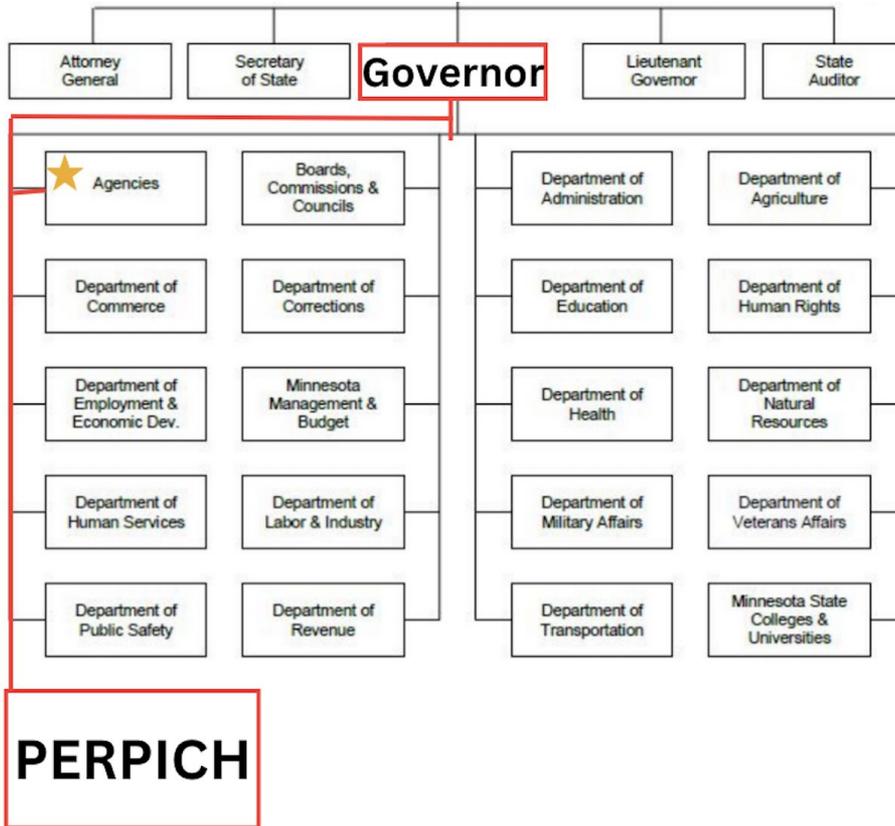
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

6125 Olson Memorial Hwy

Golden Valley, MN 55422

[perpich.mn.gov](http://perpich.mn.gov)





**Perpich is a state agency.**

# Perpich is Unique

## State Agency

- Governor
- MMB Policies  
(MN Management  
and Budget)

## Perpich Center for Arts Education

## Public School

- MDE
- MSBA Policies  
(Minnesota School  
Board Association)

# Perpich Center for Arts Education



**Professional  
Development and  
Resource Programs**



**Arts High  
School**



**Statewide  
Resource Library**

# Report to the State of Minnesota and the Minnesota Legislature

Perpich Center for Arts Education  
January 15, 2026

Executive Director's Annual Report  
Minnesota Statute §129C.27



# Professional Development and Resource Programs

Fiscal year	Total Events	School Districts/Charter Schools	Total Points of Contact	Distinct Points of Contact		
				Arts Educators	Non-Arts Educators	Administrators
FY25	313	275	2,755	1,467	400	107
FY24	373	256	2,498	1,105	329	137
FY23	352	211	1,578	739	140	83

## Six Arts Education Specialists

Dance • Theater • Music • Visual & Media Arts • Leadership & Data • CAPP

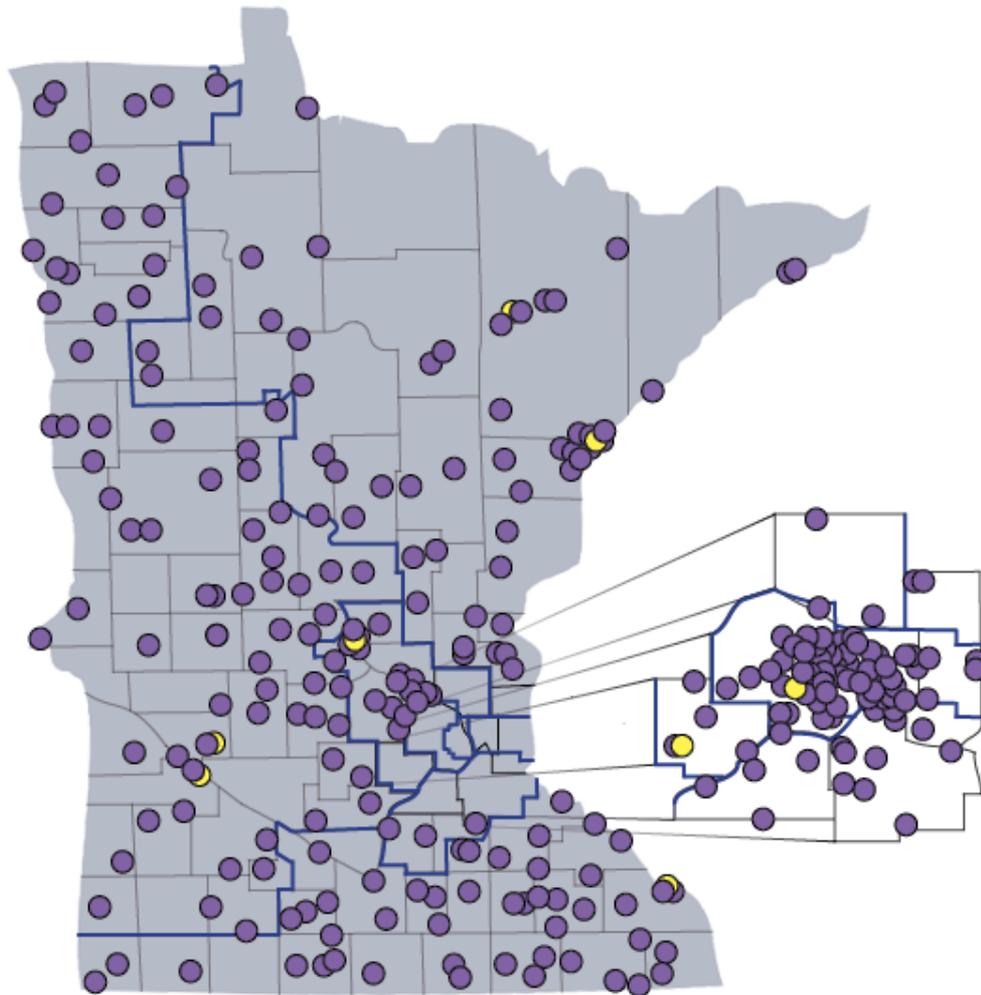
# Perpich is an Incredible Value

Current appropriation = \$8,637,000

>75% of MN Public School students impact last year alone

Available to all, serving most

## Current Per Pupil = \$10.16



## 2024-2025 School Year

275 Districts served by  
the PDR team

2,755 Points of contact

1,467 Arts educators

400 Non-arts educators

107 Administrators



# Little Falls Community Schools selected for Perpich Comprehensive Arts Planning Program

May 17, 2025 - Morrison County Record



Support in FY24 and FY25 for Educators/Administrators from Perpich Center's Professional Development and Resource Programs (PDR) – at no cost

## Senate District 10

Example: SD 10

	Statewide Total Points of Contact	Statewide Unique Points of Contact	Senate District 10 Total Points of Contact	Senate District 10 Unique Points of Contact
2023-2024	2,498	1,571	108	38
2024-2025	2,755	1,974	104	60

### Customized, district-specific professional development and/or consultation, by request

- Professional development on MN K-12 Academic Standards in Music (Jan 2025)
- Consultation with administration re: Visual Arts programming (Dec 2023)
- Consultation on dance education (Mar 2024)

### Educators/administrators participating in workshops open to MN statewide, by individual registration

- Native Authors & Artists Series (Jul 2024, Nov 2024, Feb 2025)
- Rootedness & Futurity: Integrating Arts and Philosophies of Minnesota Native Americans in Curriculum Development (Aug 2024)
- Learning from MN Native Authors (Feb 2025)
- Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy in Arts Classes (Nov 2023)
- Visual & Media Arts: K-12 MN Standards (Oct 2023)
- Grant Writing for Arts Educators (Oct 2024)
- Relicensure Series: Supporting English Learners in Arts Classes (Apr 2024, Aug 2024)
- Relicensure Series: Accommodation/Modification in Arts Classes (Apr 2024, Aug 2024)
- Relicensure Series: Student Mental Health Warning Signs (Feb 2024)
- Relicensure Series: Reading Text in Arts Classes (Apr 2024)
- Data Driven Decision Making in the Arts (Aug 2024)
- Ladder of Inference (Feb 2024)
- Arts Standards for Leaders (Aug 2024)



**Total Number of Educators/Administrators served by  
Professional Development and Resource Programs per Legislative District FY23 – FY25**

**Key:** The number of contacts is an increase over the previous year

Legislative District	FY25		FY24		FY23	
	Points of Contact	Unique Contacts	Points of Contact	Unique Contacts	Points of Contact	Unique Contacts
1	167	109	31	13	21	12
2	103	64	56	26	36	19
3	96	53	79	25	22	15
4	56	37	53	31	25	14
5	34	16	27	11	22	12
6	140	56	153	36	49	20
7	71	34	66	15	10	8
8	42	29	31	23	53	30
9	59	40	79	36	83	29
10	102	60	108	38	51	26
11	65	42	69	35	45	25
12	42	23	39	20	51	19
13	83	43	131	39	76	43
14	87	39	108	34	87	39
15	176	100	147	55	114	63

# Professional Presentations - Educational Leadership

Date	Organization	Presentation
Sept 2025	AMSD	What Perpich Can Do For You?
Nov 2025	AMSD	From Vision to Reality: How Perpich Walks with Districts Every Step of the Way to Improve Your Arts Education Program
Nov 2025	MREA	Learning from MN Native Authors
Jan 2026	MSBA	Turning the Tide on Chronic Absenteeism with Arts Education
March 2025	MASA	Turning the Tide on Chronic Absenteeism with Arts Education

# AMSD Meeting: What Perpich is Currently Doing for You



**Perpich Center for Arts Education**  
**Professional Development and Resource Programs (PDR)**  
**Opportunities to Support Minnesota Educators – AT NO COST**

## SCHOOL DISTRICTS/CHARTER SCHOOLS, EDUCATORS/ADMINISTRATORS SERVED

Fiscal year	Total Events	School Districts/Charter Schools	Total Points of Contact	Distinct Points of Contact		
				Arts Educators	Non-Arts Educators	Administrators
FY25	313	275	2,755	1,467	400	107
FY24	373	256	2,498	1,105	329	137
FY23	352	211	1,578	739	140	83

AMSD School Members + Perpich Data .XLSX

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	A	B	C	D
1	<b>FY 24 &amp; FY 25 Data</b>	<b>3-2024</b> Points of Contact	<b>2023-2024</b> Unique Points of Contact	In-District, Customized Development by Request
2	<b>Statewide</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>1,571</b>	
3	Anoka-Hennepin Schools	44	16	
4	Bloomington Public Schools	2	2	
5	Brooklyn Center Community Schools	3	2	
6	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose Schools	23	15	15 Music (Oct 2023)
7	Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District	20	7	
8	Centennial School District	1	1	
9	Columbia Heights Public Schools	8	3	
10	Duluth Public Schools	61	13	
11	Eastern Carver County Schools	2	2	

+ ≡ PDR Arts High School





**PERPICH**



**From Vision to Reality:  
How Perpich Walks with  
Districts Every Step of the  
Way to Improve Your Arts  
Education Program**



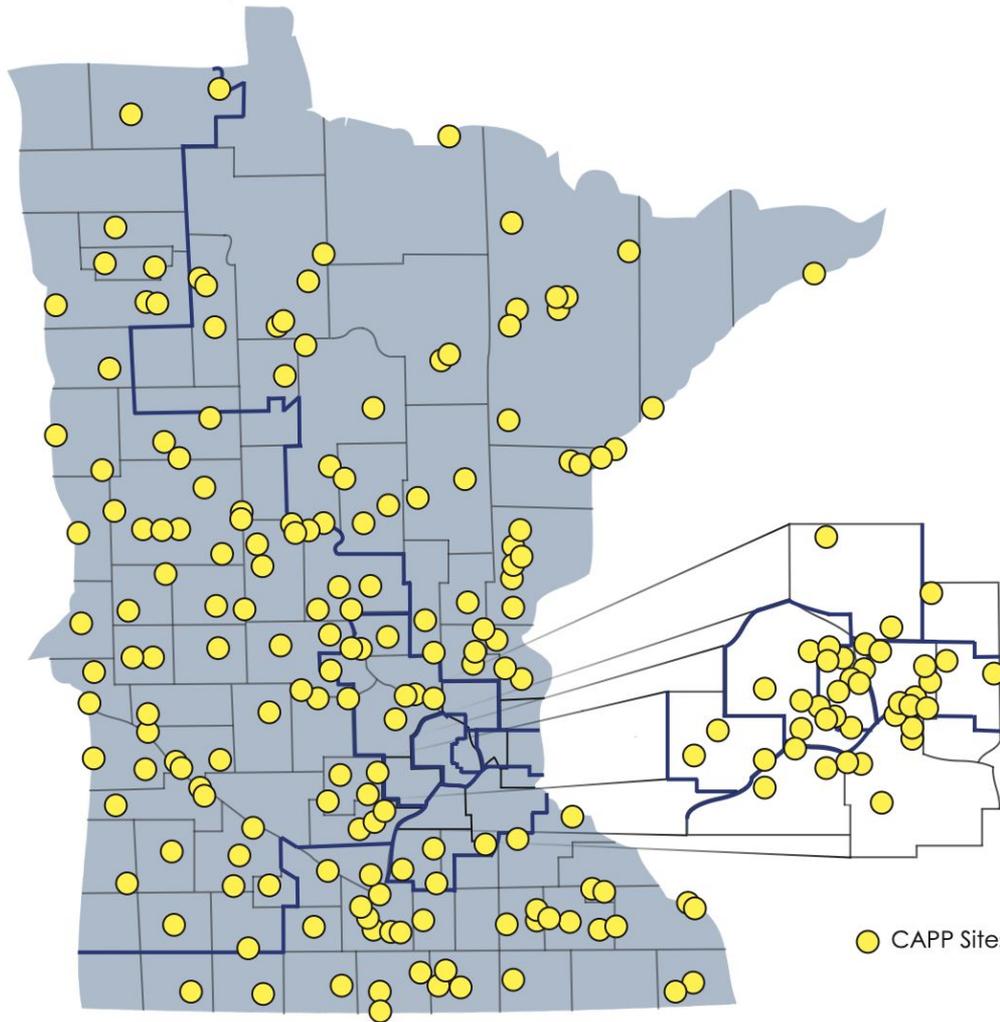
# What is CAPP?



Support to plan/improve K-12 Arts programming

- **Year 1:** Arts program analysis ➔ 3-year strategic plan
- **Year 2:** First year of Strategic Plan implementation
  - Continues 2 years beyond Perpich support

As of 2025-2027, funding is based on number of K-12 arts areas in the plan (Subs, PD)

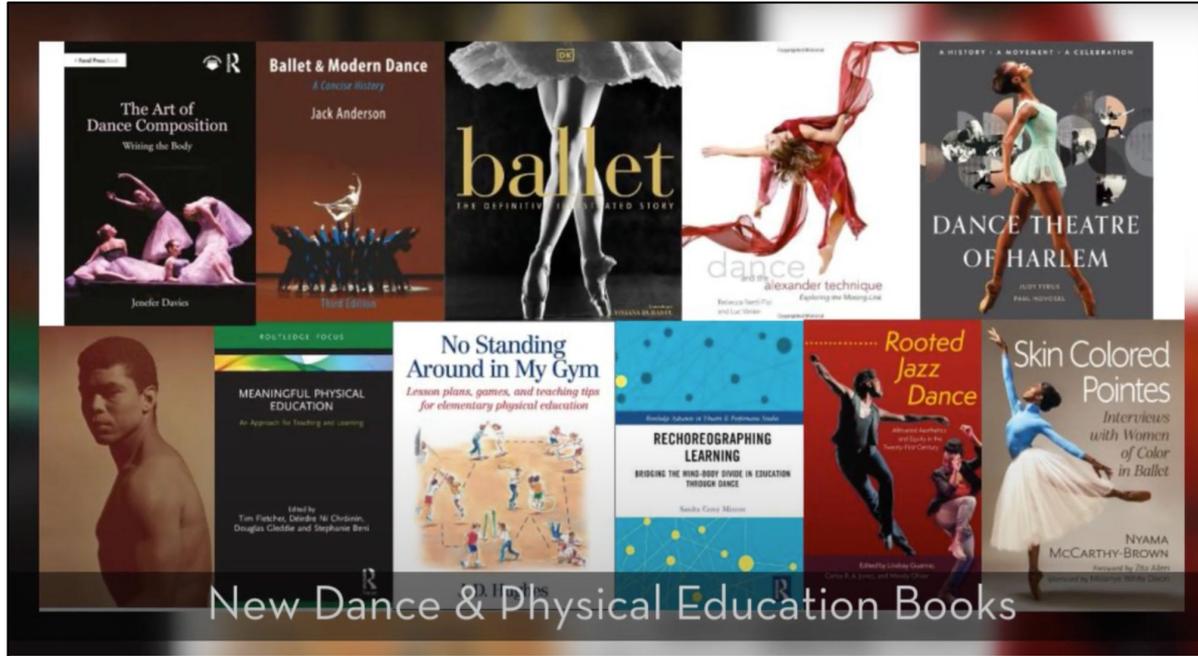


**20th Cohort!**

206 Districts

75-45,000 Students  
impacted per  
district

# Arts Education Library for You!



Native Authors  
Collections

Professional  
Collection

Children's Arts &  
Diversity Collection

# Join us at your next conference!

“Learning from  
MN Native Authors”



**MREA**  
Voice For Greater Minnesota Education

  
Greater Education  
SUMMIT

“Turning the Tide on  
Chronic Absenteeism with  
Arts Education”



# MSBA Conference - Jan '26



**Headed to MSBA?**  
Stop by to learn how Perpitch can support your school at no cost!



**1) Come to booth #429 in the exhibit hall!**

Pick up information on upcoming virtual professional development (PD) opportunities, providing customized PD work in your school district, and/or lots of resources!

**2) Creative Learning Across Campus and Curriculum, a MSBA School Excellence Showcase**

Thursday, January 15 (11:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.)

Our presentation shares how Perpitch Arts High School educators integrate exploratory and experiential learning across science, math, and the arts by utilizing both classroom and natural campus spaces. From this session, take away innovative strategies that engage creative thinkers and practical models that are applicable for schools statewide.

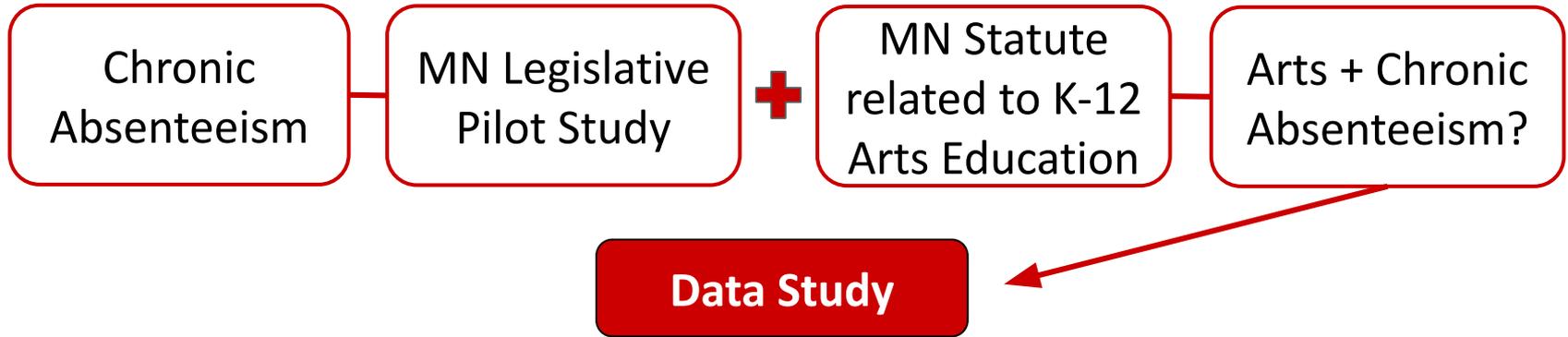
**3) Turning the Tide on Chronic Absenteeism with Arts Education**

Thursday, January 15 (2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.) Room M100F

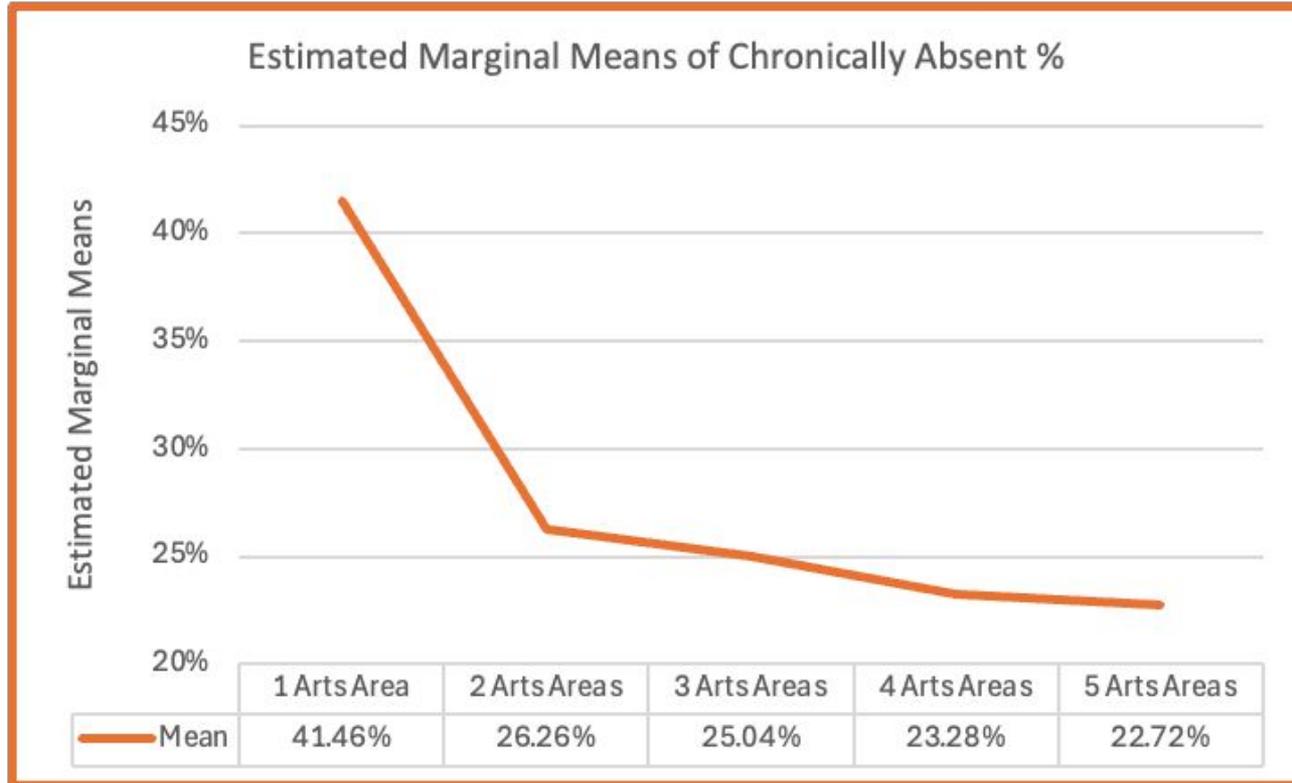
Statewide data shows that Minnesota high schools offering three or more arts areas (dance, media arts, music, theater, and/or visual arts) experience notably lower rates of chronic absenteeism. This session shares findings and explores how factors such as school type and ethnicity interact with arts access. Attendees will also learn about opportunities offered by the Perpitch Center Professional Development and Resource Programs (PDR) team to support schools and educators—your educators—in expanding arts opportunities and boosting student engagement at no cost.



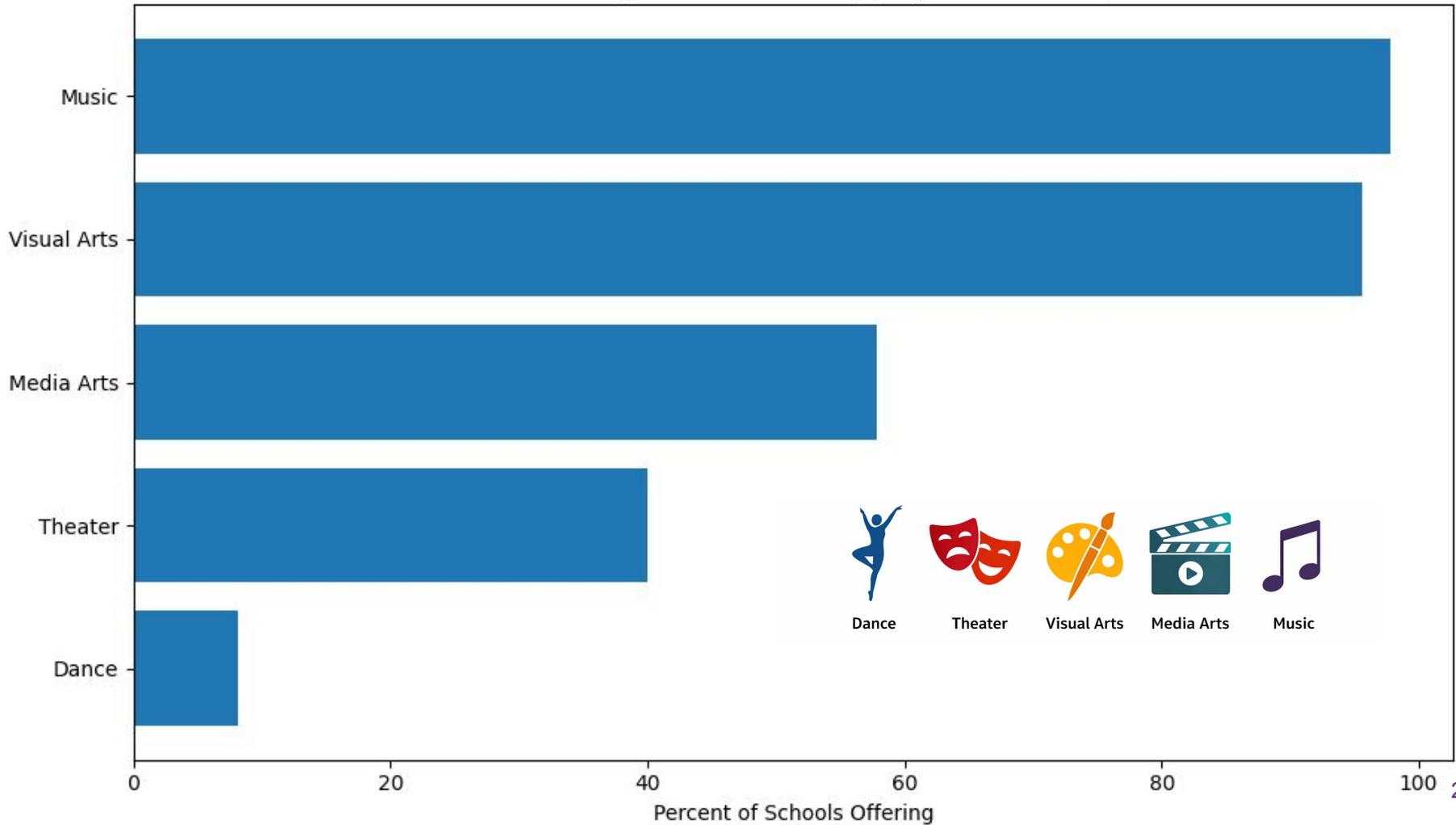
# Our path to today's research



# Results: 2020-2021 school year



Arts Areas by School Availability (Highest to Lowest)



# What arts areas were offered by the schools in our study?

# of Arts Areas Offered	# of Schools Reporting	Music	Visual Arts	Media Arts	Theater	Dance
1	5	4	0	1	0	0
2	32	31	32	0	1	0
3	62	62	62	44	18	0
4	27	27	27	25	26	3
5	8	8	8	8	8	8
<b>TOTAL Schools Offering Each Art Area</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>11</b>



2020-2021 data represents 134 schools (n=134) enrolling 143,957 students.

School sizes ranges from 52 to 3,640 students.

When these classes are offered,  
who takes them?

The [Arts Education Data Project](#) is a partnership between [Creative Minnesota](#), the Minnesota Department of Education, and the [Perpich Center for Arts Education](#).

# ARTS EDUCATION



## DATA PROJECT

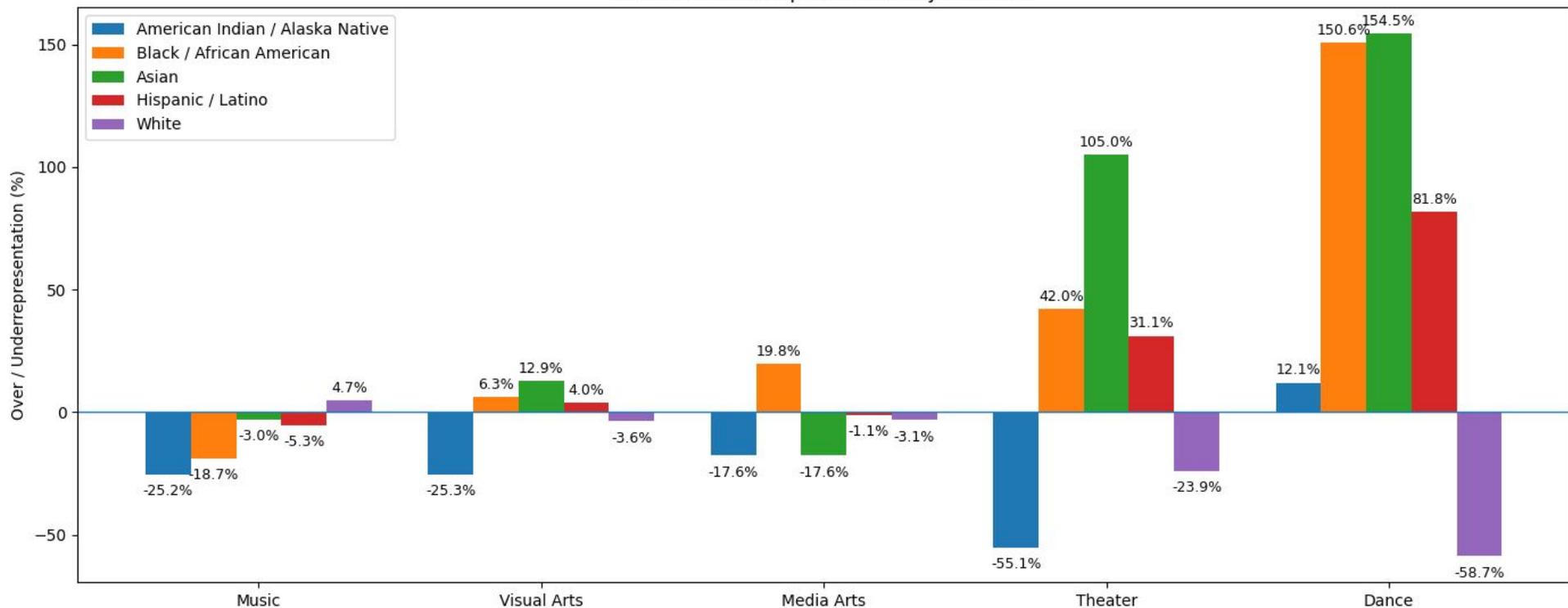
Using Data as a Catalyst To Increase Arts Education across the Nation.

Contact Us

Learn More



## Who Takes Art Classes? Over- and Underrepresentation by Arts Area



# MN Reflective Artist Award

11th & 12th graders



Congratulations to Phoebe Moyer, East Central High School, First Minnesota Reflective Artist Award Recipient, May, 2025

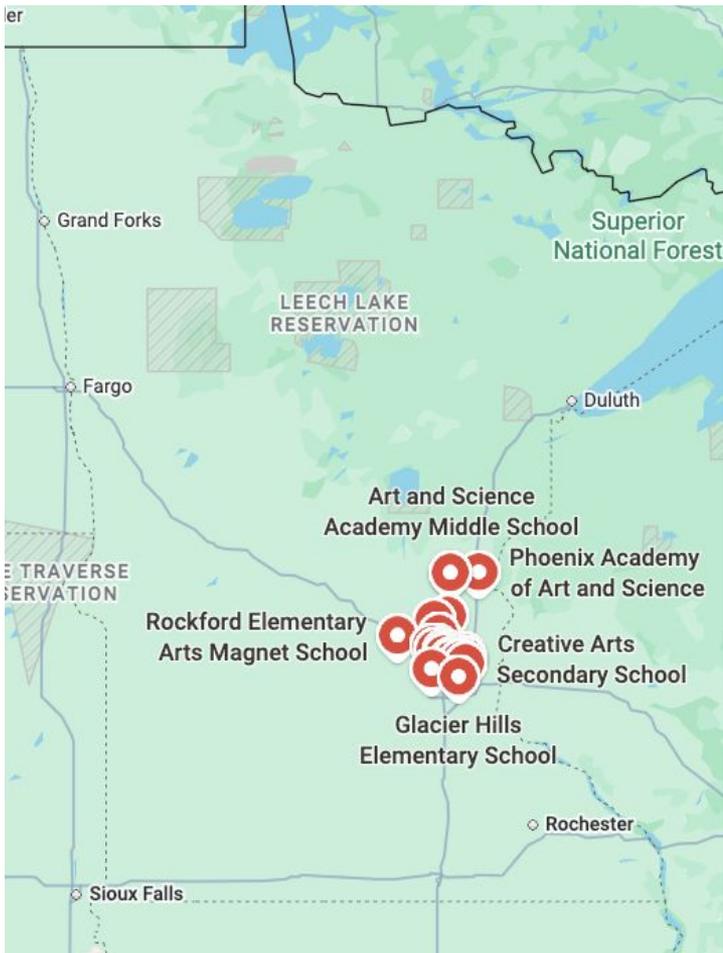
State-level recognition of achievement in the Arts

Deepen skills in the Arts that transfer to college and career

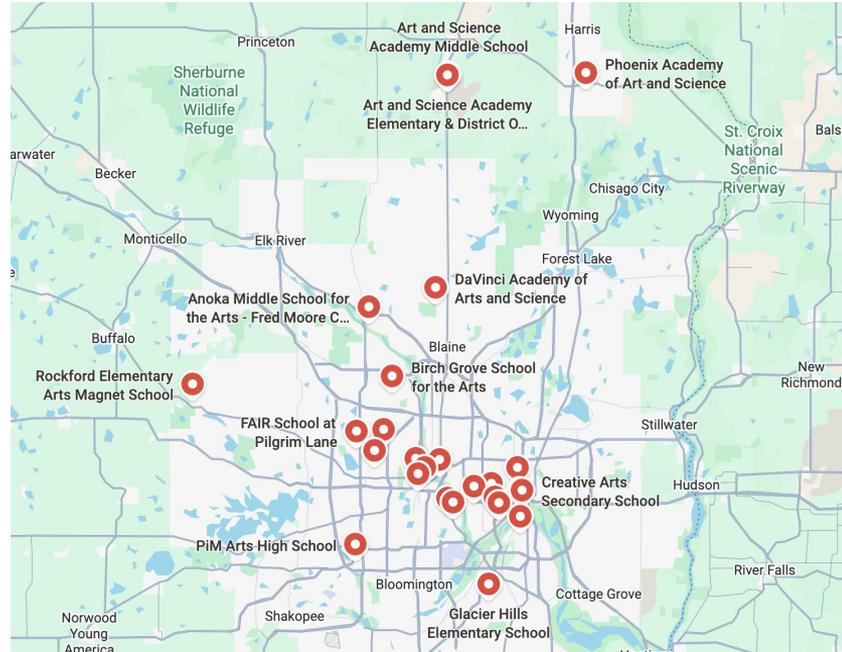
Make thinking visible



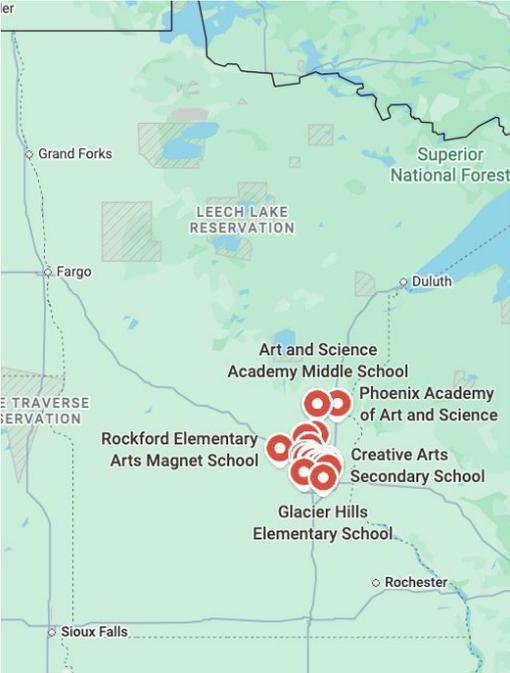
# Arts High School



# Art Schools in MN



Nearly 7 out of 10 students rely on the residential model. Without it, rural and Greater Minnesota students would not have access.



Painting by  
Perpich student,  
Jason Partridge  
from St. Michael,  
MN Class of '26.



**Perpich is not a *metro arts school*. It is a *statewide public access model*.**

Current Statewide Representation:

- Students represent 26 counties
- Represent 72 cities
- Enrolled from 51 school districts
- Represent all 8 Congressional Districts
- 69% live in the dorm
- 42% live more than 20 miles away
- 21% live more than 50 miles away
- Some travel over 250 miles
- Over 40% have 504/IEP needs noted

# Perpich is Nationally Recognized for Excellence



**ARTS SCHOOLS  
NETWORK**

**EXEMPLARY SCHOOL**



# Arts High School Community Outreach 25-26



**PERPICH STUDENTS  
PARTNER WITH  
CITY OF GOLDEN  
VALLEY FOR  
CLIMATE EQUITY  
PLAN ARTS EVENT**



**PERPICH STUDENTS  
USE ART TO  
SUPPORT  
COMMUNITY  
HEALING AFTER  
ANNUNCIATION  
SHOOTING**

# The Goose

Perpich Arts High School  
Literary Magazine



Students published in the May 2025 edition of “The Goose” attended: Elk River High School, Faribault High School, Fulda High School, Irondale High School, Laporte High School, Lincoln Secondary (Esko), North Branch Area High School, Pillager High School, Providence Academy, Stillwater, St. Paul Academy, Tartan High School, Upsala Area Schools, and Wayzata High School.

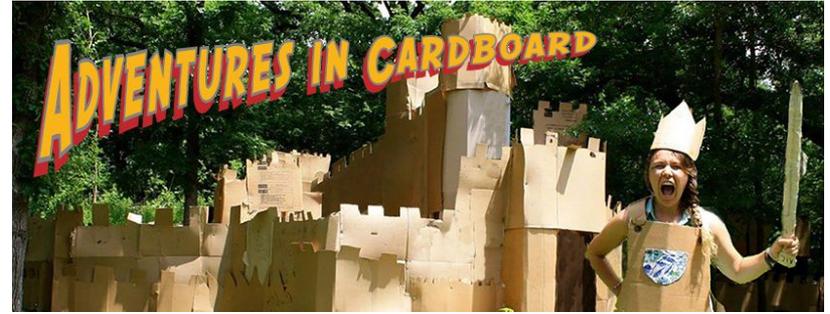
# College & Career Preparation: Real-World Access. Rigorous, Relevant Experiences.



# Student Belonging and Mental Health



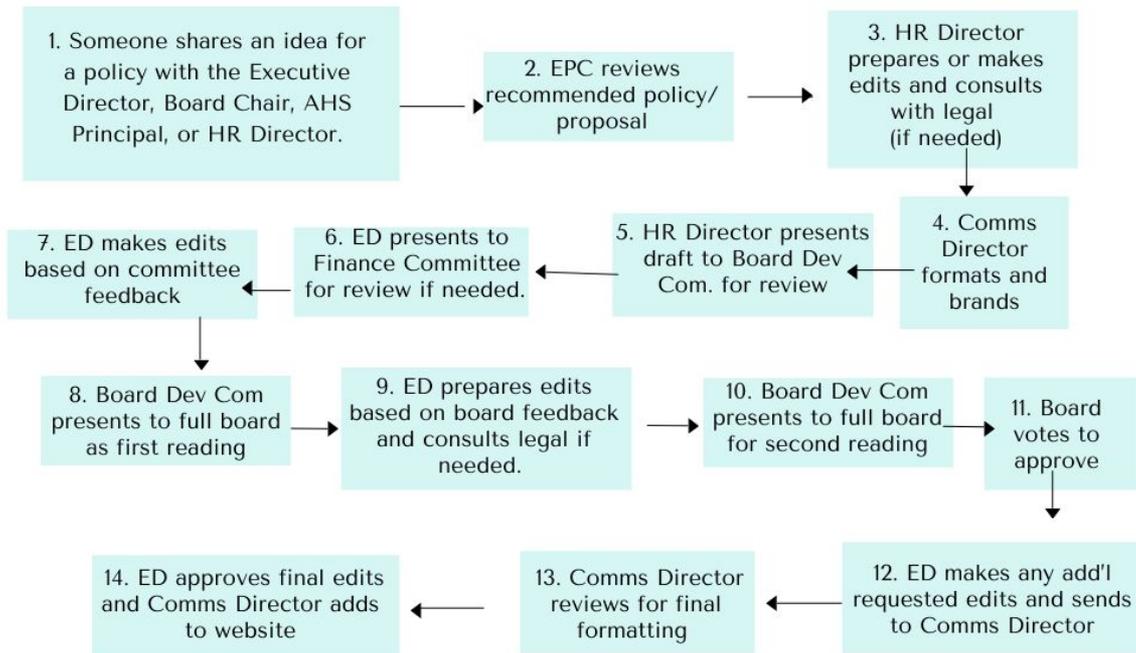
# Arts High School - Event Host



# Identifying High Priority Areas for Growth

1. Increase Enrollment at Arts High School
2. Streamline Administrative Process and Procedures

# Perpich Policy Review Process



# Arts High School Enrollment

- o **2018–19:** 112 students
  - o **2019–20:** 125 students
  - o **2020–21:** 143 students
  - o **2021–22:** 166 students
  - o **2022–23:** 149 students
  - o **2023–24:** 144 students
  - o **2024–25:** 154 students
  - o **2025–26:** 136 students
- o **2023:** 14% BIPOC students
  - o **2026:** 27% BIPOC students

# Strategies to increase enrollment at Arts High School

1. Increase the number of individuals supporting our efforts
2. Get more perspective students on campus
3. Improve data collection and systems to inform strategy
4. Build relationships with underrepresented communities

# Perpich Center for Arts Education Board of Directors - 2026



**Dr. Paul Hustoles**  
Minnetonka, MN  
CD 3



**Pasha Khosravi**  
Bloomington, MN  
CD 3



**Sally Grans Korsh**  
Minneapolis, MN  
CD 5



**Nichole Laven**  
Minnesota  
Department of  
Education Designee  
ex officio member

# Perpich Center for Arts Education Board of Directors - 2026



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Grand Rapids, MN  
CD 8



**Elizabeth Winslow**  
Fridley, MN  
CD 5



**Dr. Timothy  
Wollenzien**  
Moorhead, MN  
CD 7

# Perpich Student Ambassadors



# Expanding Summer Opportunities

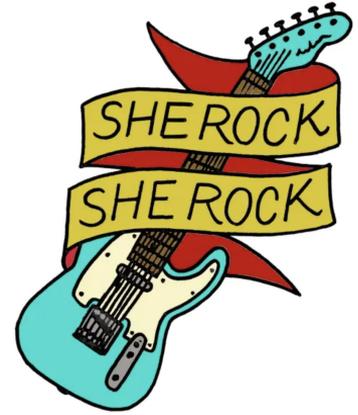


*Davente Gilreath replicates the dance move displayed on the elevator door, from his time as a Perpich student*

Perpich Arts High School

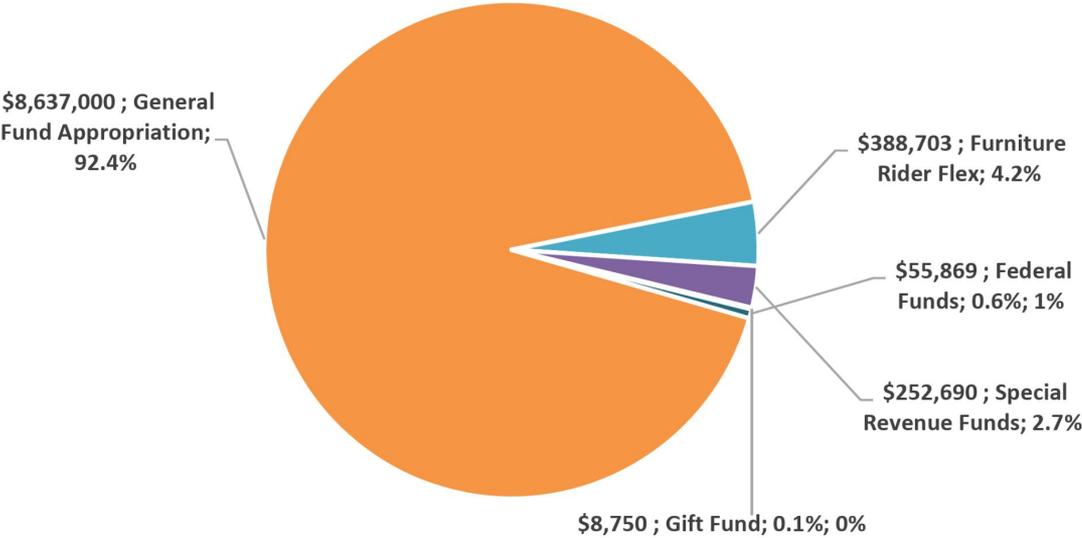
# SUMMER CAMP

June 22-26 & July 27-31, 2026  
Grades 6th - 10th



# How is Perpich Center for Arts Education Funded?

FY2026 Projected Funding Sources  
Total Revenue Budget = \$9,343,012



# Perpich Funding - No Taxation Authority

1. NO Referendum authority for additional funding
2. NO Technology Levy authority (Capital Projects Levy)
3. NO Long-Term Facilities Maintenance (LTFM)/ Health Safety
4. NO Bonding authority for new building project/improvements/ deferred maintenance
5. NO Safe Schools Levy
6. NO Operating Capital levy/aid
7. NO Achievement & Integration levy/aid

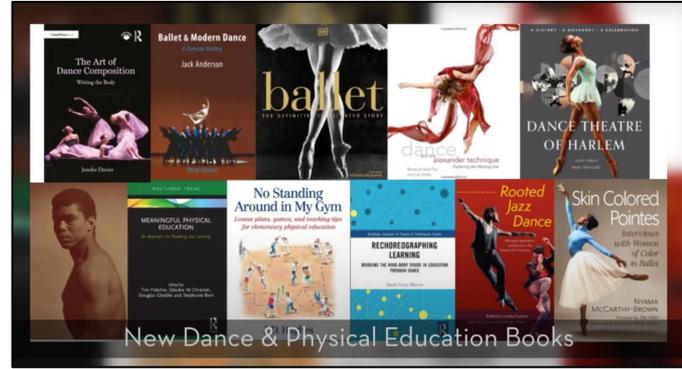
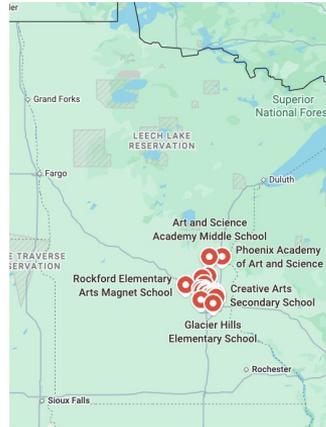
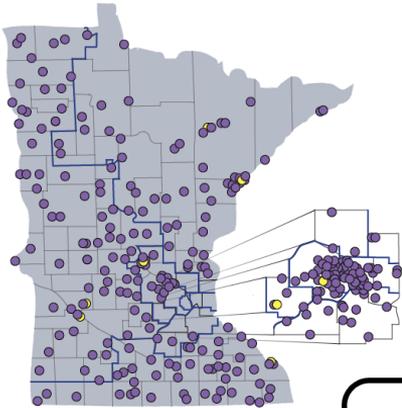
# Perpich Funding - No State Aid

1. NO Basic Skills Aid (Compensatory and ELL)
2. NO Special Education Aid
3. NO Literacy Incentive Aid
4. NO READ act funding (including funds for training)
5. NO School Library Aid
6. NO School Support Personnel Aid

# Perpich is an Incredible Value

Current appropriation = \$8,637,000

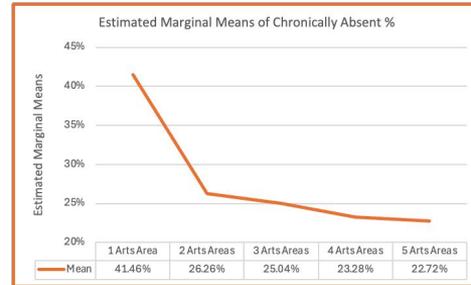
\$10.16 per pupil



New Dance & Physical Education Books



**MINNESOTA  
REFLECTIVE  
ARTIST  
AWARD**



**PERPICH**

# Perpich Funding - No Federal Title Funding

1. NO Title I
2. NO Title II
3. NO Title III
4. NO Title IV
5. NO Title V
6. NO Title VI
7. NO Title IX



# WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN MINNESOTA



## NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR'S PERCENTAGE OF U.S. ECONOMY (Artists, University Arts, Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

### ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 4.3% OF NATION'S GDP & 5 MILLION JOBS

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that nationally the arts and culture sector is a **\$804 billion industry**, representing 4.3% of the nation's GDP—a larger share of the economy than construction (4%) or education services (1.1%).

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2016.

54

GDP & JOBS



**BONUS:** U.S. exports generate a \$25 billion arts trade SURPLUS.

## MINNESOTA ARTS FACTS

### MINNESOTA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 3.6% OF STATE'S GDP & 99,143 JOBS

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributes **\$12 billion** to Minnesota's economy, representing 3.6% of the state's GDP—a larger share than some other industries in the state.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2016.



**BONUS:** In 2016, MN arts and culture generated \$6.5 Billion in total compensation.



# 2026 Capital Budget Proposal

Asset Preservation Requests

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“ Art is our one true global language...  
It speaks to our need to reveal, heal,  
and transform. It transcends our  
ordinary lives and lets us imagine  
what is possible. ”

---

– Richard Kamler, Artist quoted in

*Your Brain on Art*

