VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

I. PURPOSE
To implement the policy of the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education for the Visual and Performing Arts Programs.

II. GUIDELINES

A. Any LCPS student who participates in any co-curricular or extra-curricular activity shall be governed by applicable New Mexico Activities Association and New Mexico Music Education Association policies and regulations.

B. Each fine arts event and/or activity shall be considered on its individual merit and alignment with other LCPS policies and regulations.

C. All LCPS visual and performing arts events and activities, whether during regular school hours or outside of school hours, and both on and off school campus, shall have prior permission from appropriate school administrator(s). (See LCPS Policy IJOA: Field Trips and Excursions, and forms IJOA-E1, E2 and E3.)

D. Students shall have current, signed parental permission and medical release forms as required by school district policy turned in to their instructor(s) prior to participation in any off-campus or outside-of-school-hours activities and/or events. (See LCPS Policy IJOA: Field Trips and Excursions, and forms IJOA-E1 and E2.)

E. LCPS visual and performing arts activities and/or events shall be arranged to minimize disruption to instructional time and to support school district attendance and field trip policies and regulations, and approved state academic standards. (See LCPS Regulation JHD: Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance; Regulation IJOA: Field Trips and Excursions; and LCPS Policy and Regulation IA: Instructional Goals and Learning Objectives.)

F. Transportation requests shall be made in accordance with school district policies and procedures regarding transportation of students. (See LCPS Policy EEA: Student Transportation and EEFA: Activity (Ancillary) Buses/Special Events Transportation.)

G. Requests for funding from existing operational and activity accounts for visual and performing arts events shall be made in writing to the appropriate LCPS control agent no less than 30 calendar days prior to the date of any event.

H. Any visual or performing arts group comprised of LCPS students; or any individual LCPS student who performs for, assists, works with or supports
any non-district entity in a performance or other event, may be compensated by a donation to the appropriate school activity account.

I. All booster organizations/clubs are recognized as community partners that support the fine arts programs in our schools. As such, all booster organizations/clubs are required to follow Policy KJA – Relations with Parent Support Organizations and Regulation KJA-R.

J. Neither the name of any LCPS school or school-sponsored group, nor any school district equipment, shall be used to endorse any commercial, political or sectarian entity, group or organization.

K. Visual and performing arts events by any LCPS student or student group shall be allowed in a church or other religious setting for concert performances only.

L. Required participation fees for secondary school’s performing arts groups.

1. There shall be no required participation fees for students at the middle school level.

2. High school performing groups may require the payment of student participation fees. Said fees shall not exceed the following:
   a. Band, choir, orchestra, jazz; and color guard, show choir: $100 per year ($50 per semester) per student.
   b. Students who are enrolled or participate in more than two classes shall only be required to pay a single participation fee of $200 per year ($100 per semester).
   c. In cases of extreme financial hardship, the director or school principal may waive or adjust the required fee to meet the needs of the family involved. No student shall be denied full access to all benefits of the program due to financial reasons.
   d. All participation fees shall be deposited into the appropriate school and program activity account, not the booster club account.

3. Additional student fees may include, but shall not be limited to:
   a. Uniform cleaning and maintenance fee, as determined by the actual cost of uniform cleaning and repair by the approved local vendor.
   b. School-owned instrument usage fee: $40 per semester. Said usage fee payments shall be placed into the LCPS District Instrument Rental activity account (not the school activity account or booster club), and the use of said fees shall be restricted to emergency repairs, equipment replacement and upgrade of equipment. Any school may access funds collected by request through the LCPS Department of Instruction, office of Fine Arts.
c. The cost of personal items that are designated as part of a performance uniform, including, but not limited to gloves, shoes, shirts, polo shirts, etc. shall not exceed $75.

M. No student shall be required to attend practice for marching band for more than nine hours of rehearsal time per calendar week outside the academic school day. This shall apply to students in all components of the marching band. School band directors may schedule up to three additional special rehearsals with guest clinicians during the marching band season, including, but not limited to, rehearsals on Saturdays, during school breaks, etc.

N. Middle school or high school music performing ensembles are encouraged to participate in annual music performance assessments, commonly referred to as “district large group festival.” Participation shall include all major ensembles from band, choir and orchestra (first and second groups). Students who are members of such performing groups are required to participate if the ensemble participates. Beginning ensembles “first-year students” shall not be required to participate but are encouraged to do so. Student participation in solo/ensemble shall be encouraged for all students and shall also be considered as an “MPA” evaluation. A student may be excused from participation in “MPA” due to extreme circumstances, such as illness, etc.

O. In accordance with school district standard practice, the use of tutors (private lesson instructors) and private piano accompanists to work with music students within the school building during regularly scheduled music classes shall be allowed, with program director approval. In compliance with applicable LCPS policy and regulation, (See LCPS Regulation IJOC: School Volunteers), said tutors and accompanists shall have a background check completed if they provide this service on a weekly or bi-monthly schedule. These individuals shall be required to attend all LCPS training and complete all required forms as presented by the school district. Fees may be paid directly to the provider from students receiving these services.

P. Secondary ensembles have traditionally participated in regional, state and national invitational competitive or evaluative events. Groups who apply or are invited to perform shall follow all applicable LCPS policies and regulations concerning out-of-district or out-of-state travel. All funds used to pay for participation in and travel to and from such events shall be generated by parent- and student-sponsored fundraising in compliance with all applicable LCPS policies and regulations.

_________________________  5/01/2019
Approved, Deputy Superintendent  Date
History: Formerly Policy 419; revised as IHAF-R: Visual and Performing Arts: 8.6.13, Revised 04.29.19
Legal Reference: NMAC 6.30.2.8; 6.30.2.17