

Welcome!
IASB Summit
on Student
Success
June 11,
2025





SESSION SPEAKERS

- Leon Kuehner: Executive Director, Iowa Alliance for Arts Education
- Jennifer Gaesser: Vocal Director, Creston High School
- Wyatt Hitz: student, Creston High School
- Karlee Capson: student, Creston High School
- Jean Schilling: president, Central Springs School Board



CREATING COMMUNITY & SENSE OF BELONGING

Arts Education:

- improves school culture
- builds collaboration and communication skills
- builds community and civic engagement
- engages students in school/motivates them to learn
- develops critical thinking and creativity
- facilitates cross-cultural learning
- strengthens problem solving ability
- low-income students who are highly engaged in the arts are two-times as likely to graduate from college as their peers with no arts education
- a student involved in the arts is four-times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement
- 93% of Americans believe that the arts are vital to providing a well-rounded education

The background features a solid black field. At the top, there is a horizontal band of vibrant, wavy colors including yellow, orange, red, and teal, creating a sense of motion and depth.

CRESTON
FINE ARTS
VIDEO:

JENNIFER GAESSER

TEACHER PERSPECTIVE

27%

of CCHS
participate in
Music

DID YOU KNOW?

**The CCHS Music Department
offers the following:**

- *Marching Band
- *Concert Band
- *Jazz Band
- *Jazz Improv Class
- *Music Appreciation I/II
- *Music Theory
- *Broadway Choir
- *Advanced Mixed Choir
- *Women's Choir
- *Mixed Choir
- *Piano Class
- *Lessons

COME JOIN US!

DID YOU KNOW?

**24-25 CRESTON HS
FINE ARTS DATA**

27%

of CCHS students
participate in at least 1
MUSIC
Class/Activity

13%

of CCHS students
participate in at least 1
SPEECH AND DRAMA
Class/Activity

54%

of CCHS students
participate in at least 1
FINE ARTS
Class/Activity

9%

of CCHS students
participate in at least 1
DANCE
Class/Activity

32%

of CCHS students
participate in at least 1
VISUAL ARTS
Class/Activity



STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

What are your personal experiences in the fine arts?

What benefits do you see from these experiences?

- Wyatt Hitz
- Carlee Capson



SCHOOL BOARD PERSPECTIVE

**Jean Schilling, President
Central Springs School Board**

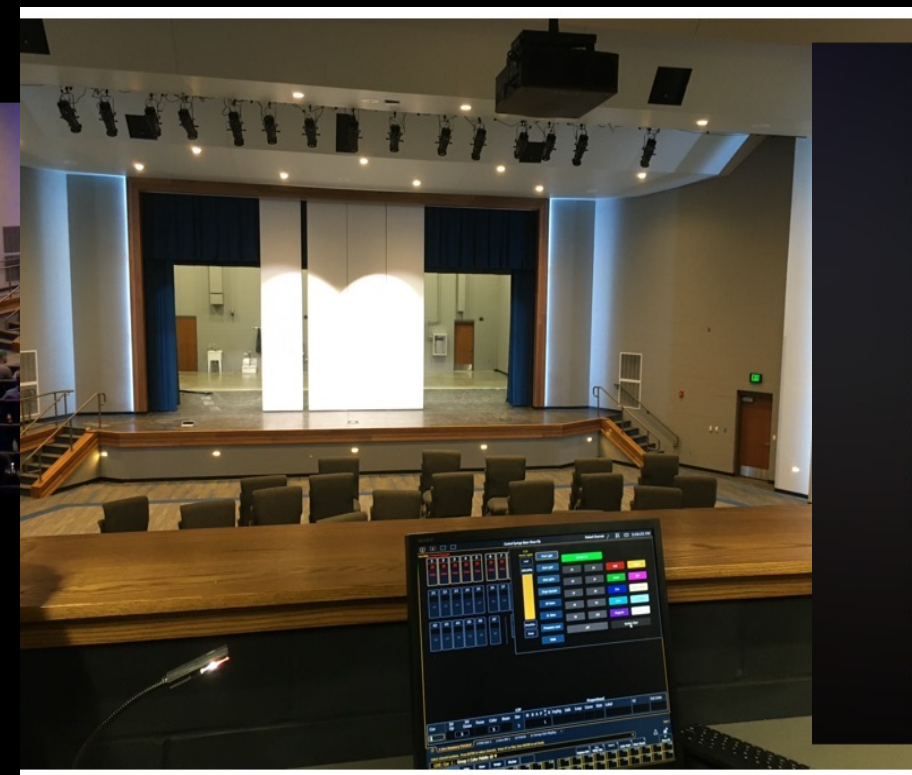
What is a school boards role in creating a culture where students can thrive in quality fine arts programs?

- Facilities
- Scheduling Flexibility
- Teacher Support to Ensure the Power of Belonging

SPECTATOR GYM BUILT IN 1954



NEW AUDITORIUM ! 2020



THE POWER OF BELONGING!

- 5-12 Band Concert



CONOR O'KEEFE: BAND KING



THE POWER OF BELONGING



TAKEAWAYS FOR YOUR SCHOOL BOARD TO DISCUSS:

- 1. School Boards can support school fine arts programs by believing that participation in fine arts programs is beneficial for all students. This requires school boards to support the arts with finances, staffing, facilities, regional opportunities and enthusiasm!
- 2. Equity and access to quality fine arts instruction is part of "well-rounded" education that all students deserve. School boards and administrators must also support teachers so they can reach every student at their abilities.
- 3. The power of belonging is inherent in the fine arts classroom. Many students find their voice through the arts.
- 4. The fine arts classroom prepares students for success in school, success in the community and success in life. Creative thinking and critical discernment thrive in the arts.

Questions?

