

January 2026 Fine Arts Update

**Zack Lewis
Director of Bands
K-12 Fine Arts Department Chair**



Departmental Overview

- Primary - 2 music teachers, 1 art paraprofessional
- Intermediate - 1 music teacher
- Junior High - 2 art teachers, split choir director, 1 band director, 1 band paraprofessional (shared w/ HS), 2 sections of theatre
- High School - 2 art teachers, split choir director, 1 theatre director, 1 band director/ fine arts department chair



2025-2026 Fine Arts Goals

- Vertically align each program
- Continue building quality programs while building enrollment numbers
- Secure fair, consistent, and appropriate budget for all programs
- Teacher support - recruit, retain, and develop excellent fine arts educators
- Community engagement
- Align fine arts programs with the district's strategic plan



Primary/Intermediate Music

- Reinstated intermediate music program
- Focus on TEKS aligned lessons, utilizing Quaver music curriculum/program, while building student creativity, appreciation for music, and fundamental skills that will be used in junior high choir and band
- Students attend music 1-2 times per week for 30 minutes
- Newly added budget line
- Primary - Fall 1st Grade Performance “I Can,” and Christmas Music Program



Primary Art

- Students attend art one time every three weeks for one hour (rotation of 44 classes)
- Focus on TEKS aligned lessons building student creativity, appreciation for art, and fundamental skills that will be used in junior high and high school art programs
- Highlights each student's art and showcases it in school hallways



Junior High Theatre

- School year goal: lay a foundation for a strong future
- 41 students in two performance theatre classes
- The fall semester goal was getting students comfortable on stage
- Students will participate in a one-act play and musical in the spring semester
- Spring semester: focus on technical theatre



Junior High Art

- Participated in 1st ever fall festival
- Hosted annual Christmas movie night fundraiser for spring college tour
- Yearbook and graphic design students created Homecoming spirit posters to decorate school hallways.
- 268 students in art elective



Junior High Band

- Increased level of student accountability
- Vertically aligned pedagogy between JH and HS band programs
- Added JH jazz band (19 students enrolled in class)
- 18 students earned a chair in the All-Region Band
- 3rd year JH band will attend UIL Concert and Sight Reading Evaluation after not attending since 2019
- 98 students in JH band



Junior High/High School Choir

- Increase in quality of program and repertoire difficulty level
- 6 All-Region Qualifiers, 3 Pre-Area Qualifiers, 2 Area Qualifiers
- 2024 & 2025 UIL Concert and Sight Reading Evaluation Sweepstakes Award
- 5 State Solo and Ensemble Qualifiers in May 2025
- Focus on retaining JH choir students into high school choir
- Goal - JH choir attending UIL Concert and Sight Reading Evaluation
- 76 students in JH choir and 41 students in HS choir



High School Art

- 3 VASE (Visual Art Scholastic Event) State Qualifiers in the last 2 years
- Focusing on creating more student involvement in the VASE competition
- Over 100 pieces of student art submitted for last art show
- Focus on TEKS aligned projects that allow students to express creativity
- In planning stages of this years art show to showcase student work
- 207 students in HS art elective



High School Theatre

- 2 All-Star Cast awards and the Outstanding Technical Theater Crew Award at One Act Competition in spring of 2025
- 6 students attended summer "Camp On The Coast" at Texas A&M Corpus Christi. All 6 students from Snyder were cast in the camp play productions.
- Expanded with 16 new students this year
- Fall production of Thornton Wilder's classic "The Matchmaker" was a success
- This year's One-Act Play will be "The Curious Savage" by John Patrick
- 24 students in A/V courses. 52 students in theatre courses



High School Band

- Increase in quality of program and repertoire difficulty level
- '24-'25 UIL Sweepstakes Award (1st time since 2016)
- 2025 Division 1 at UIL Region Marching and 16/25 at UIL Area A
- 12 State Solo and Ensemble Qualifiers in May 2025
- 5 All-Region Qualifiers, 2 Area Qualifiers
- 33 students with a goal 70 students
- Continued focus on retention of JH band students



“The arts, which include music, are fundamental to education—not an extra—and are critical for the development of the whole child.”

— Elliot Eisner

