

# Executive Summary

## Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting

### May 14, 2019

## Denton ISD Fine Arts/UNT Onstead Institute Partnership Update

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### Board Goal:

- I. Vision
  - cultivate a network of professional learning communities addressing the educational needs of every child in our district
  - establish goals for individual campuses that incorporate both measurable and intangible factors
- II. Teaching & Learning
  - establish high expectations with a curriculum that fosters inquiry and critical thinking
  - develop academic skills and interpersonal relationships necessary for student success in college, the workplace and for life.
  - expect full curriculum implementation on each campus by instructional leaders
  - establish quality staff development programs that promote professional learning communities

### Purpose of Report

This item is a one-year update of a three-year formal partnership between Denton ISD and The University of North Texas, to apply Design Thinking concepts across the curriculum in Fine Arts. This partnership engages faculty from the College of Visual Arts & Design, and faculty in Fine Arts in curriculum-development and delivery, creating connective tissue between Denton ISD and The University of North Texas. This effort is intended to contribute to creation of a culture ripe for integrated instruction, fostering inquiry across the curriculum.

### Objectives

- Development of a vertically and horizontally aligned Secondary Art Curriculum grounded in Design Thinking, formatted in UbD, focused in College/Career Readiness.
- This action creates a bridge between a Tier One Research University, and a public K-12 school district by forming a Professional Learning Community involving faculty from both entities.

### Operational Impact

Denton ISD Fine Arts Costs:

\$4400 in Ed Leave

\$2100 in summer pay

\$300 in consulting fee for elementary expert

Total: \$6800

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### Results

May 2018: Professional Development to train Art, Dance, and Theatre faculty teams in Design Thinking

August 2018: Applications accepted for Fine Arts Curriculum teams

September 2018: Teachers and Principals notified of Curriculum Team appointments

October 2018: PLC with Onstead Institute, UNT and Denton ISD Faculty begins

October 26, November 11, January 18, February 22, April 26: Denton ISD Curriculum and Instruction Science Coordinator Brianna Morris trains Denton ISD Curriculum team and UNT Faculty participants in Understanding by Design Curriculum writing.

January 7 and March 18, 2019: Denton ISD Art Faculty/UNT Faculty Professional Learning Community collaboration meetings (Scope and Sequence development).

April 2019: Two Week Co-Teaching Residency pilot in Art classrooms at Crownover MS, Strickland MS, and Rodriguez MS.

May 10, 2019: Research Proposal for Partnership Approved by Denton ISD Area Superintendent Research Review Committee

Upcoming:

June 3-6, 2019- Summer Curriculum Writing and 2019-2020 Planning Workshop with Secondary Art Curriculum Committee and UNT Faculty/staff project participants

June 14-15, 2019: CEDFA Design Thinking Workshop in Austin

Advantages:

- Development of aligned secondary curriculum in Fine Arts is in progress.
- Design Thinking has been introduced to faculty and some groups of students in Denton ISD.
- Materials and supplies for Professional Development are provided by the Onstead Institute and the Nieman Marcus Foundation
- Our faculty are beginning to speak the same language as the other core content teachers in Denton ISD due to training with Curriculum & Instruction.

Disadvantages:

- None

### Other Options

N/A