

## Cowan Creative Campus Profile

### Results for 2016-2017 School Year: Arts Rich

Based on the data provided in the Arts Inventory by the campus principal in the spring of 2017, Cowan was found to be an **Arts Rich** campus. Inventory responses and the associated Creative Campus scores are listed below. More information about how the Creative Campus score was calculated can be found on the following page.

#### Primary Creative Campus Components

	2016-17 Response	2016-17 Score	Change from 2015-16*
<b>1. Sequential Fine Arts Instruction</b>			
# of grade levels (K-6) where most students receive regular music and visual arts instruction	6	4	↑
# of grade levels (K-6) where most students receive regular theatre, dance or media arts instruction	6		
<b>2. Creative Teaching Across the Curricula</b>			
% of general classroom teachers who use creative teaching strategies or arts integrated instruction at least once a week	75-100%	4	↑
<b>3. Community Arts Partnerships</b>			
% of grade levels with at least 2 community arts partnerships during school time	86%	3	=
Calculated # of hours of arts exposure per student during school time	9.86		
<b>4. After School</b>			
# of grade levels (Pre K-6) with afterschool arts opportunities in at least two art forms	6	4	↑
<b>Average score of components 1 through 4</b>		<b>3.75</b>	<b>↑</b>

#### Additional Creative Campus Components

	2016-17 Response	2016-17 Score	Change from 2015-16*
<b>5. Community Building Through the Arts</b>			
# of campus created arts experiences this year to engage families, faculty, and community [Criteria ≥ 8]	6	No	↑
<b>6. Leadership</b>			
Arts goals and strategies are included in the Campus Improvement Plan (CIP) [Criteria = Yes]	Yes	Yes	↑
<b>7. Communication</b>			
Frequency of school communication to families about the value of creative learning in person or through print or social media [Criteria ≥ Once per semester]	At least monthly	Yes	↑
<b>8. Professional Development</b>			
% of teachers who participate in creative teaching or arts integration professional development [Criteria ≥ 50%]	50-99%	Yes	↑
<b>9. Facilities</b>			
Campus facilities meet the 2008 Fine Arts Education Specifications or sufficiently accommodate arts programming [Criteria = Meets standard or able to make accommodations]	Meets standard	Yes	=
<b>Total number of additional criteria met</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>↑</b>

\*Note: "↑" denotes increase, "↓" denotes decrease, "=" denotes no change, and "n/a" denotes an impossible comparison due to missing data or a change in criteria.

## Cowan Elementary School calculation

Average of primary 4 components:	3.75
Points earned/lost for additional components: from # of additional components met out of 5: 4	0.5
Primary average +/- additional components:	4.25
Arts richness score:	Arts Rich

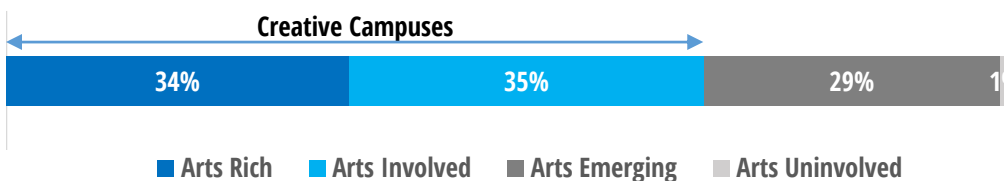
### What Does it Mean to be an Arts Rich Campus?

Your campus classifies as an arts rich school, and therefore meets the fullest criteria of a Creative Campus. In arts rich schools, nearly all students receive sequential fine arts instruction, more than half of the teachers use creative teaching strategies at least once a week, and community arts partnerships are cultivated both during and after school. To improve, continue supporting teachers to implement creative teaching, develop additional community arts partnerships, communicate regularly with families about the value of creative learning, expand opportunities for students across new art forms, and serve as a demonstration site.

### Why does AISD Measure Creative Campus Scores for its campuses?

National research on creative learning shows that students attending arts-rich schools have higher levels of motivation and better academic and social success (Dwyer, 2011). In addition, prior research into the Creative Learning Initiative (CLI) in AISD indicated that the implementation of creative teaching strategies is related to increased levels of student engagement, attendance, greater academic achievement, and social emotional skills (Christian, Hasty, & Wang, 2017). Current AISD findings indicate that 69% of our elementary schools are already Creative Campuses (Figure 1). Because the arts benefit students academically and creatively, AISD, in collaboration with the City of Austin and MINDPOP, is strategically working towards achieving Creative Campuses for all students by 2022-2023 (MINDPOP, 2012).

Figure 1. In 2016-2017 the majority of AISD elementary school had characteristics of being Arts Rich and Arts Involved-



Source. 2016-2017 AISD Elementary Arts Inventory

## Calculation of Creative Campus Score

The Creative Campus score is calculated as the average of the primary four components (Sequential Fine Arts Instruction, Creative Teaching across the Curricula, Community Arts Partnerships, and After School) plus points earned (or lost) from the additional five components (Community Building through the Arts, Leadership, Communication, Professional Development, and Facilities).

Description of points earned/lost from additional five components:

- If # "Yes"=0, then -1 point
- If # "Yes"=1, then -0.5 points
- If # "Yes"=2 or 3, then 0 points
- If # "Yes"=4, then +0.5 points
- If # "Yes"=5, then +1 point

$$\text{Creative Avg +earned/lost} = \text{Campus Score}$$

Creative Campus stages by final score:

- ≥ 4 = Arts Rich
- 3-3.99 = Arts Involved
- 2-2.99 = Arts Emerging -2
- 1-1.99 = Arts Emerging -1
- <1 = Arts Uninvolved

## Additional Information

### Creative Campus Goals at Cowan

Each year, school leaders develop a Campus Improvement Plan (CIP). Despite there being no district requirement to do so, in 2016-2017 74% of elementary schools made CIP goals related to becoming a more Creative Campus. Cowan set the following goal: "Offer at least two opportunities per semester for all students to exhibit/showcase their fine arts learning in the community."

At the end of the year, school leaders reflected on progress in the spring, as follows:

**Progress:** "Completely accomplished"

**Challenges:** "Not enough time in the day. Special areas every 3 days makes it difficult to complete tasks."

**Successful Strategies:** "Artsonia, Social Media, Community engagement"

### Distribution of Arts Partners by Grade at Cowan

As schools engage with community arts partners they distribute those experiences across different grades, representing different art forms and different cultures. These calculations are provided to help reflect on the current distribution of arts partners and art form to help guide future choices.

	Pre-K	K	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
<b># of arts partners</b>	1	2	3	3	6	4	4	n/a
<b># of art forms</b>	1	1	2	3	6	4	1	n/a

## References

- Christian, C., & Wang, C. (2016a). *Elementary creative campus profile: Results for 2015–2016 school year*. Austin, TX: Austin Independent School District.
- Christian, C., Hasty, B., & Wang, C., (2017). *Creative Learning Initiative Annual Evaluation Report 2015-2016*. Austin, TX: Austin Independent School District.
- Dwyer, C. (2011). *Reinvesting in Arts Education*. Portsmouth, NH: President’s Committee of the Arts and Humanities.
- MINDPOP. (2012). *Ensuring the Arts for Any Given Child Summary Report*. Austin, TX: Austin Independent School District.

### AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### Authors

Crystal Wang, Ph.D., Melissa Andrews, M.A., M.Ed., Cinda Christian, Ph.D.

#### Department of Research and Evaluation



1111 West 6th Street, Suite D-350 | Austin, TX 78703-5338  
512.414.1724 | fax: 512.414.1707  
[www.austinisd.org/dre](http://www.austinisd.org/dre) | Twitter: @AISD\_DRE

August 2017  
Publication 16.37bRB