The arts are an essential part of a well-rounded education, a core part of the human experience, and are required by law in Maryland. Maryland students need and deserve the arts. Here is a guide to make sure your school is ready and prepared to provide what the law requires for your students!

Find out if The Arts are ‘performance-ready’ at your school!

Ways to Keep Pitch-Perfect!

- Attend your local Board of Education meetings or find out what has been happening at them!
- Know who the members of your local board of education are! Find out on this resource page!
- Find out when your school and/or local school system holds its annual budget meetings!
- Read your local school system’s reopening plans!
- Check out AEMS’s COVID-19 Resources
- Communicate with an administrator at your school about their plans to continue arts instruction virtually.
- Look at the artlook® Virtual Learning Library to find more resources for arts education!
- Find out if there are support systems of other arts educators to collaborate with on developing and conducting virtual lessons for your arts discipline!
- Use artlook® Maryland to find Arts Partners who could help provide more arts experiences for students!
Out of Tune! Alert AEMS if...

- Administrators and/or teachers at your school call arts classes “resources,” “specials,” “enrichments.”
- There is a culture that the arts are not important or required.
- Arts programs have a history of being cut at your school.
- Your school’s budget for arts supplies does not cover the students’ needs.
- Teachers buy supplies for students out of their own pocket.
- Families buy supplies for students out of their own pocket.
- Teachers use/have used DonorsChoose/GoFundMe to buy supplies for students.
- It is not clear if your school has a budget specifically for arts supplies.
- Arts teachers do not have their own separate rooms or spaces (ex: art on a cart)
- Arts disciplines (dance, media arts, music, theatre, visual art) are not offered at all grade levels.
- Only one arts discipline is offered as a course during the day.
- There are no arts courses offered during the day at your school.
- Attendance at virtual arts classes is lower than other subjects.
- There are no arts courses offered during the day at your school.
- Attendance at virtual arts classes is lower than other subjects.
- Virtual arts classes are not part of your school’s Phase I (virtual only) plan.

Need Help with a Tune-Up?

- Contact AEMS through our [Incident Report Form](#)!
- Schedule an [Office Hours Appointment](#) to talk to us about what’s happening at your school!
- Get more information on arts education at your school by looking it up on [artlook® Maryland](#)