

## **RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MARCH 2020 AS “ARTS EDUCATION MONTH” IN ALABAMA SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education recognize the arts as a vital and enriching segment of children’s well-rounded education; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Art Education Association has designated March as “Youth Art Month”; the National Association for Music Education has designated March as “Music in Our Schools Month”; the American Alliance for Theatre Education has designated March as “Theatre in Our Schools Month”; and the National Dance Education Organization has designated March as “Dance in Our Schools Month”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Council on the Arts, the Alabama Institute for Education in the Arts, the Alabama Music Educators Association, the Alabama Art Education Association, the Alabama Arts Alliance, the Alabama Chapter of the Educational Theatre Association, the Alabama Dance Educators Association, the Alabama Dance Council, the Alabama Conference of Theatre, and the Alabama Artistic Literacy Consortium have voiced their support for designating March 2020 as “Arts Education Month” in Alabama schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts education teachers in the public schools of Alabama continue to strive for educational excellence and artistic literacy for their students; and

**WHEREAS**, support should be given to arts teachers as they attempt to strengthen arts education programs in their schools and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, arts education contributes powerful education benefits to all elementary and secondary students including the following: arts education develops students’ creative problem-solving and critical-thinking abilities; arts education teaches sensitivity to beauty, order, and other expressive qualities; arts education gives students a deeper understanding of multicultural values and beliefs; arts education reinforces and brings to life what students learn in other subjects; and arts education interrelates students’ learning in arts production, arts history, arts criticism, and aesthetics:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That support should be given to arts education teachers as they attempt to strengthen arts education in their schools and communities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That education in the arts, including dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts, is an essential component of a well-rounded K-12 public education in Alabama; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby express its appreciation to arts educators, classroom teachers, and administrators for their efforts to improve arts education in Alabama public schools; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby designate March 2020 as “Arts Education Month” in the public schools of Alabama.

Done this 13th day of February 2020