

Abstract

Name and address of organization:

Educational Service Unit #2

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Fremont, NE 68026

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Number of students to be served: 2,300

Schools: Niobrara, Santee, Schuyler, Walthill, West Point, Winnebago, Umo n ho n Nation

Project Partners: Wayne State College, Joslyn Art Museum, Nebraska Arts Council

Mastering the Arts Project Goals and Measures
Goal 1: Over four years, deliver a master's degree program through Wayne Sate College in curriculum and instruction with special emphasis in arts and technology integration for elementary classrooms.
Goal 2: Over four years improve student mastery of the Nebraska State Standards in Science, Math, ELA and Social Studies.
Goal 3: Improve teacher appreciation of the arts, self-efficacy and frequency in integrating arts instruction into content subjects.
Goal 4: Improve student engagement by broadening and deepening arts learning, teaching, and integration across: 4a. the K-6 science, math, ELA and social studies curriculum, as measured by classroom observations and teacher surveys.
Goal 5: Double the amount of time students study and do arts.
Goal 6: Develop a sustainable, replicable arts education and integration model that works in a diverse, rural environment.

The **Mastering the Arts (MTA)** program meets the Absolute Priority to provide PD to teachers in seven high-poverty and lowest achieving rural Nebraska elementary schools so they can use innovative teaching methods to **integrate and strengthen standards-based arts instruction** across the curriculum through a program of intensive and ongoing professional development, master-degree attainment and in-class mentoring of teacher participants. This integration will **improve student academic performance** (including their skills in creating, performing and responding to the arts using high quality digital tools) and in doing so improve their thinking and reasoning skills which will prepare them to successfully meet the performance expectations of the Nebraska State Standards.