ENCOURAGING PARTICIPATION IN ESSA IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING IN CHICAGO

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The Arts in CPS: A Brief History

- Wallace Foundation report: Chicago’s poor performance
- 18-month CALI process: Ingenuity is born
- Arts Education Plan: the arts declared core subject
- Ingenuity cemented as partner to Chicago Public Schools
WHY INGENUITY?
ADVOCATE LOCAL, IMPACT STATEWIDE

There is a place for local advocates in ESSA!

- 3rd largest school district in the U.S.
- 20%+ of Illinois’ student population
- Model program: Creative Schools Initiative
WHAT ROLE ARE WE PLAYING?

• Gaining our own knowledge, thereby becoming a resource to others
  • AEP & AFTA resources as well as ISBE materials
  • Sharing the new definitions created via ESSA
  • Well-rounded (core) and STEM (STEAM)
• Providing advocacy opportunities to the sector
  • Facilitating legislative visits
• Offering “political cover” to legislators and other decision makers
  • Directly connecting the arts to ESSA’s goals
• Increasing the abilities of others to articulate the importance of the arts in schools
  • Social media, newsletter, ESSA Round Table, Advocacy Institute
CONVENING LOCAL LEADERS: INGENUITY’S ESSA ROUND TABLE

• Wide range of stakeholders invited
  • State board of education, arts funders, Arts Alliance, higher education, teachers via art education associations, lobbyist, and community partners
• Presentation by trusted sources
  • AFTA presentation on ESSA across the U.S.
  • ISBE presentation on the current process
  • Arts Alliance Illinois on parlaying recent passing of new arts standards into ESSA accountability measure
• Completed SWOT analysis to inform next steps and “asks”
EDUCATING NEW ADVOCATES: THE ADVOCACY INSTITUTE

- In partnership with IAEA, ILMEA, & AAI to reach widest audience
- Convening of community providers and teachers, most fairly new to advocacy work
- Honest dialogue from AFTA, panel of advocates, and one-on-one interview with Illinois State Senator Pat McGuire
- Legislative visits as outcome: “asks” to include funding (Title I, STEM, etc.), equitable access (well-rounded), and HS graduation requirement
• Support in-district legislative visits
• Attend fall ESSA public hearings in Illinois
• Reengage ESSA Roundtable participants
• Utilize Arts in Education Week
• Work with Chicago’s Mayor’s Office to share student and school progress
• January institute on federal advocacy

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