**ART CONTINUUM OF BIG IDEAS (UNDERSTANDING)**

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| **We Express** **Ourselves with Art** | People create art **to express who they are** as individuals and community. | Creative expression **develops our unique identity and voice**. | The **mind and body work together** when creating works of art. | Creative expression is a means to **explore and share one’s identity within a community**. | Engaging in creative expression and experiences **expands people’s sense of identity and belonging**. | Engaging in creative expression and experiences **expands people’s sense of identity and community**. | Through art making, **one’s sense of identity and community continually evolves**. | **Creative growth requires patience, readiness to take risks, and willingness to try new approaches.** | **Identity is explored, expressed, and impacted** through arts experiences. |
| **We Inquire and** **Learn with Art** | **Engagement in the arts** creates opportunities for inquiry through purposeful play. | **Inquiry through the arts** creates opportunities for **risk taking.** | **Creative experiences** involve an interplay between **exploration, inquiry, and purposeful choice.** | **Artists experiment** in a variety of ways to discover new possibilities. | Artists experiment in a variety of ways to discover new **possibilities and perspectives.** | **Artistic expressions differ** across time and place. | Experiencing art **challenges our point of view** and **expands our understanding** of others. | **Individual and collective expression** can be achieved through the arts. | The arts provide opportunities to **gain insight into the perspectives and experiences of people** from a variety of times, places, and cultures. |
| **We Communicate with Art** | Dance, drama, music, and visual arts **express meaning in unique ways**. | Dance, drama, music, and visual arts are each unique languages for **creating and communicating**.  | Dance, drama, music, and visual arts use their own unique **sensory** language for creating and communicating. |
| **Art Connects Us** | People **connect to others** and **share ideas** through the arts. | People **connect to the hearts and minds of others** in a **variety of places and times** through the arts. | The arts **connect our experiences to the experiences of others.** | Exploring works of art **exposes us to diverse values, knowledge, and perspectives**. | Works of art **influence and are influenced by the world** around us. | Experiencing art **is a means to develop empathy for others’** perspectives and experiences. | Engaging in the arts **develops people’s ability to understand and express complex ideas**. | Artists often **challenge the status quo** and **open us to new perspectives and experiences**. | Creative arts experiences **can build community and nurture relationships** with others. |

**These Big Ideas can be explored through dance, drama, visual art and music**

**Creative Processes include:** explore and focus, select and combine, refine and reflect, and reflect and connect