

Theater: Grades 7, 8

Adopted 2010

Artistic Processes –
Theater employs creative problem solving using tools, techniques, and technology in one or more disciplines in order to make the imagined tangible.

T1 (7-8)-1. Students show skill development in acting, directing, designing, and scriptwriting by... T1 (7-8)-1

- a. creating basic characters, environments, and actions that exhibit tension and suspense; creating short dramatizations in selected styles of theater (e.g., melodrama, vaudeville, and musical theater)
- b. analyzing and maintaining a rehearsal script/notebook to record directions and blocking, and design information
- c. developing a character using non-verbal techniques (e.g., dance, mime, physical comedy, stage combat (wrestling, sword play, physical confrontation); using basic improvisation in rehearsal to discover character and motivation; developing a character as part of an ensemble
- d. designing or creating, and analyzing costumes, props, music, sets, makeup, or masks that support or enhance character in formal or informal performances

T1 (7-8)-2. Students solve artistic problems by... T1 (7-8)-2

- a. researching and generating strategies, and choosing one that addresses identified challenge inherent in the story (e.g., "How do we foreshadow the antagonist's downfall?")

T1 (7-8)-3. Students make connections among the arts and other disciplines by... T1 (7-8)-3

- a. demonstrating analysis of a piece of literature or a social or scientific event by creating a short original dramatization (e.g., a musical scene from S.E. Hinton's *Outsider* or a video on cellular mitosis)
- b. comparing and contrasting different theatrical performances to tell a similar story (e.g., plays and poetry both built on a journey theme)

Cultural Contexts –
Theater arts creatively expresses the values and ideas of human experience, community, and civilization.

T2 (7-8)-1. Students demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the role of Theater Arts in personal, cultural, and historical context by... T2 (7-8)-1

- a. analyzing and dramatizing two stories with a common theme from two historical periods or cultures (e.g., loyalty, revenge, redemption)

- b. comparing and contrasting cultural beliefs and traditions in the theater arts in two cultures and time periods (e.g., Greek theater - comedy and tragedy; Japanese Theater – Kabuki, Noh; American theater - melodrama and musical theater)
- c. interpreting and evaluating ways in which theater, television, electronic media, or film influence their thinking in positive and negative ways
- d. designing and creating masks, puppets, props, costumes, music, or sets in a selected theatrical style drawn from world cultures, such as Japanese shadow puppets or Kabuki masks
- e. analyzing the roles of the arts and artists in times of conflict and harmony to express disapproval and unity
- f. describing at least two different artistic careers and the education required

Communication – Theater communicates meaning and expression through the sharing of human experience using image, sound, movement, words, space, time and chronology.

T3 (7-8)-1. Students demonstrate the ability to communicate in the language of the Theater Arts by... T3 (7-8)-1

- a. analyzing and applying performance and design techniques to convey complex emotions, ideas, or meaning (e.g., betrayal or enlightenment or in aspects of design or writing)

T3 (7-8)-2. Students demonstrate the ability to extract meaning from Theater by... T3 (7-8)-2

- a. analyzing major and minor themes and characters and their symbolic representation (i.e., cultural references)
- b. analyzing techniques that support the story's meaning (e.g., the lighting in combination with the music foreshadowed hope)

Aesthetic Judgment – Applying knowledge and skills of Theater Arts in order to reflect on and evaluate the work of self and others.

T4 (7-8)-1. Students reflect upon, analyze and evaluate the work of self and others by... T4 (7-8)-1

- a. analyzing what is seen and heard (e.g., figurative language and imagery) in a performance or text and comparing that with things known (e.g., the playwright, time period, place, cultural identification, etc.)
- b. evaluating character's objectives and motivations based on what is seen, heard, and known to explain character's behavior
- c. analyzing technical elements of a theatrical production (e.g., playwright, dress rehearsal, run-through, cold reading, ensemble, proscenium, thrust, and arena staging)
- d. analyzing dramatic elements of a plot (e.g., recurring themes and patterns, protagonist and antagonist, foreshadowing, rising action, catharsis, and denouncement)