



# Call to Action!

Arts Education is under attack and needs your help immediately !

Do you want to live in a community that values the arts and ensures that all children have access to a high quality arts education program in their schools?

If your answer is "YES!" then act now!

*How you ask?*

Just follow the simple suggestions below:

**FIRST, call or write each of your local state legislators.**

*(You will find all of the contact information you need on the back side of this paper!)*

- Tell them that your local school board supports a high quality arts education program!
- Then, share your story of how and why the arts are important to you and your family.  
*Be specific, for example:*
  - Tell them how your once shy child is now a confident, successful child that has benefited from singing in the school chorus.
  - Tell them how participating in band or drama motivated your child to stay in school.
  - Tell them how your once withdrawn student now communicates freely through expression on canvas thanks to art class.
  - Tell them how you understand that a public school system that values high quality arts education is good for property values and economic development.
- Then, tell them to stop shrinking the budget for public education so your local school board can continue to support high quality arts education programs for students in Charlotte County Public Schools!

**SECOND, forward this letter to each member of the School Board of Charlotte County.**

*(You will find all of the contact information you need on the back side of this paper!)*

- Thank them for their continued support of high quality arts education for kids and let them know that you will help fight against budget cuts to public schools.

# Contact your local state legislators:

**Senator Michael Bennett**

Wildewood Professional Park, Suite 90  
3653 Cortez Road West  
Bradenton, FL 34210  
(941) 727-6349  
bennett.mike.web@flsenate.gov

**Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto**

12150 Forest Hill Boulevard  
Suite 200  
Wellington, FL 33414-5727  
(561) 753-2440  
benacquisto.lizbeth.web@flsenate.gov

**Senator Nancy Detert**

417 Commercial Court  
Suite D  
Venice, FL 34292  
(941) 480-3547  
detert.nancy.web@flsenate.gov

**Governor Scott** -Office of Governor Rick Scott

State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001 Ph:(850) 488-7146

**The Honorable Paige Kreegel**

410 Taylor Street  
Punta Gorda, FL 33950-4832  
(941) 575-5820  
paige.kreegle@myfloridahouse.gov

**The Honorable Gary Aubuchon**

Suite 305  
3501 Del Prado Boulevard  
Cape Cora, FL 33904-7223  
(239) 344-4900  
gary.aubuchon@myfloridahouse.gov

**The Honorable Kenneth Roberson**

Suite B  
17825 Murdock Circle  
Port Charlotte, FL 33948-4090  
(941) 613-0914  
ken.roberson@myfloridahouse.gov

# Contact your school board members:

**The Honorable Andrea Messina**

941.255.0808 ext. 3124  
Andrea\_messina@ccps.k12.fl.us

**The Honorable Lee Swift**

941.255.0808 ext. 3011  
Lee\_swift@ccps.k12.fl.us

**The Honorable Alleen Miller**

941.255.0808 ext. 3012  
Alleen\_miller@ccps.k12.fl.us

**The Honorable Ian Vincent**

941.255.0808 ext. 3008  
Ian\_vincent@ccps.k12.fl.us

**The Honorable Barbara Rendell**

941.255.0808 ext. 3018  
Barbara\_rendell@ccps.k12.fl.us

**Note:**

*The mailing address for all school board members is:*

Charlotte County Public Schools  
1445 Education Way  
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

*Thank you for supporting Arts Education!*

*Arts in Education Charlotte County Taskforce*

For more information contact: Steve Brown 941-276-9016; Judy Malbuisson 941-764-8100;  
Ellen Harvey 941-255-0808 ext. 3178 ellen\_harvey@ccps.k12.fl.us;