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**SACRAMENTO COUNTY GRAND JURY ASKS:
ARE SACRAMENTO COUNTY SCHOOLS LEAVING
MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR ARTS EDUCATION ON THE TABLE?**

Public schools in Sacramento County receive nearly \$40 million each year to increase instruction in visual and performing arts as a result of Proposition 28, passed overwhelmingly by voters in November 2022. Because of the importance of arts education, the strong support for the bill, and the significant amount of money at stake, the Grand Jury investigated the extent to which schools are taking advantage of this funding, a multi-million-dollar opportunity that could greatly benefit students.

“In Sacramento County, Proposition 28 was approved by 65% of the voters, underscoring the importance of ensuring that our schools take full advantage of this funding,” said Elizabeth TenPas, Grand Jury Foreperson for 2024-2025. “This strong support reflects a growing awareness that arts and music education is not merely a ‘nice to have’ addition to the school day; rather, it is increasingly seen as an important part of the core curriculum.”

The newly published report outlines clear findings: Governing boards can do a better job of implementing both the letter and the spirit of law, especially in areas of program

planning and hiring, transparency in reporting, and parent involvement. Further, the Grand Jury found a technical violation of Proposition 28 that could result in the loss of funding if not corrected.

The full investigation is available for public review on the Grand Jury website:
www.saccourt.ca.gov.

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