[Insert name and address here]

[Date]

[Address]

Dear [School Board Member NAME],

We are here to help. As parents, students, arts education organizations and leaders [specify], we commit to support the [location] school board in navigating how best to support our students’ learning and mental health during [location’s] recovery. Students are at the center of this crisis – facing everything from obstacles to learning, increased homelessness, food shortages and increased mental health challenges. Our students and economy need to heal, and arts education is critical to the solution.

We know the economic devastation caused by COVID-19 will translate into hard decisions for you in the months ahead. Whether through virtual or physical classrooms, providing a comprehensive arts education is integral, and state mandated, for our students.

The arts are key to the healing, learning and resiliency of our students. If cuts are unavoidable, we would like to ensure that reductions to the arts are not disproportionate to other state mandated disciplines. We continue to offer our support and partnership, and to stand in solidarity with students, parents and teachers as they navigate this difficult time.

As we imagine what the future holds, there are a few things that we can confidently say. The

arts will be fundamental in addressing the needs of our students and families affected by the

traumatic experiences unfolding. [I, We,] [is/are] ready and committed to advocate for our students’ access to the arts they need and deserve. Together we can ensure that our students have the tools necessary to navigate the challenging times ahead and are prepared for a dynamic 21st century workforce.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]