



Palm Springs Unified School District Mural Guidelines

These guidelines establish a process for approving art murals on Palm Springs Unified School District property including their maintenance and lifespan.

Procedure

Any proposed physical change (not routine maintenance) which includes applying paint or wall art to any part of a district property, regardless of funding source shall require an applicant to submit a Minor Capital Project (MCP) application, which includes a scaled color rendering of the proposed project and a photograph/map showing the building location of the proposed mural. A mural shall not be created without the final authorization of the Asst. Supt. of Business Services for Cabinet.

Mural proposals that do not meet all of the criteria/guidelines may be denied, or accepted with required modifications.

Placement

Murals should be located in a site where it will enhance and activate the student experience.

- It should not be placed in a location where it disrupts the site's landscaping and maintenance requirements.
- It should not be so large as to overwhelm adjacent architecture, exceed the height of the building or become a visual distraction from the significant architectural features of the building structure; nor should the building's architecture be altered to accommodate the mural.
- It should not physically damage the building or site, such as paint on unpainted CMU e.g. concrete brick, concrete block, cement block, cinder block etc.

Conditions

- Do not paint over prefinished items, concealed surfaces, finished metal surfaces, galvanized metal (other than conduit) and operating parts.
- Labels: Do not paint over Underwriters Laboratories (UL), Factory Mutual (FM), or other code-required labels or equipment name, identification, performance rating, or nomenclature plates.
- No mural shall consist of or contain electrical or mechanical components, or changing images.
- The mural shall be maintained until removed, and painted by a qualified artist/muralist, one with sufficient knowledge and experience with the application of mural materials that have proven performance for withstanding the desert climate.



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- The Mural should use materials, coatings, or other protective techniques that will be resistive to vandalism and graffiti and are compliant with all applicable Federal, State and Local regulations.
- All painted surfaces should be considered for containing lead and handled appropriately so as not to create a lead dust hazard.
- Colors, though vibrant, should be complimentary and harmonious with the exterior colors of the building structure, as well as consistent with the chosen theme.
- Designs shall not be offensive or discriminatory.
- No advertising, logos, or political messages will be allowed. The mural artist's signature may appear, provided that it is not so prominent as to detract from the mural display.

Schedule

Mural installation is to begin within 90 days of approval and be completed within 90 days of the start date.

Maintenance

Routine maintenance, repair and cleaning of an artwork become the responsibility of the Coordinator of Visual & Performing Arts or his/her designee and will not be maintained by district M&O staff. The district painting crew does not have the specialized resources to maintain or repair murals.

For proper long-term care of the artwork, a formal maintenance plan should incorporate:

1. A schedule of regular inspection.
2. An outline of maintenance activities for murals e.g. cleaning and minor repair.
3. Documentation of condition, maintenance and treatment work.

Vandalism

Graffiti shall be removed in a timely, safe and effective manner that does not affect the layer below, and after consultation with the Coordinator of Visual & Performing Arts or his/her designee. Graffiti that is not promptly removed sends a message to the community that vandalism is acceptable. For these reasons, graffiti removal shall be undertaken by the Coordinator of Visual & Performing Arts or his/her designee familiar with the piece to avoid irreparable harm to the mural whenever possible. If the Coordinator of Visual & Performing Arts or his/her designee requests for M&O to remove the offending graffiti, the department shall be held harmless for any subsequent damages to the mural.



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Removal of Mural

The mural life span will be for a minimum period of four years.

Prior to the minimum expiration period, all murals shall be protected in place during repainting.

A mural may be removed prior to the expiration period due to the following circumstances:

1. The structure is substantially remodeled or altered in a way that precludes continuance of the mural.
2. Upon making a finding by the Coordinator of Visual & Performing Arts or his/her designee that the continued maintenance of the mural is not feasible.
3. The Principal and Coordinator of Visual & Performing Arts agree to remove the mural prior to its expiration and submit a request for approval to the Director of Maintenance & Operations before proceeding.
4. The cost associated with removing any mural shall be incurred by either the Coordinator of Visual & Performing Arts or the school principal.

General Note: Persons objecting to a specific mural or wall art should submit a letter to the principal including the objection and any proposed solution. Objections will be reviewed and a response will be provided to the complainant through the Asst. Supt. of Business Services.