

# Visual & Performing Arts District Advisory Committee (VAPA DAC)

December 1, 2021 – via Zoom

## MINUTES

**Attendees:** Deborah Berek, Janis Gabbert, Linda Greenberg, Zina Josephs, Elizabeth Manco, Dr. Jacqueline Mora, Lydia Muraro, John Redfield, Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein, Tom Whaley

1. STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR THAT PROMOTE CIVILITY AT ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS – included in the printed agenda
2. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Co-Chair Janis Gabbert.
3. **Election of officers:** Dr. TJ conducted the election, which resulted in Janis Gabbert being elected Co-Chair, Lydia Muraro being elected Vice Chair, and Zina Josephs being elected Secretary, all by acclamation.
4. **Minutes** from the October meeting were approved by unanimous consent. (Berek)
5. **Calendar review** – next DAC meeting on January 19

## REPORTS:

6. **P.S. Arts** – Rebecca Cardenas was unable to attend but sent a written report. Summary: Family Art Nights -- Schools have the choice to do a virtual or in-person option. Two schools are scheduled so far: Muir - Jan. 18 (virtual) and McKinley - Feb.9 (in-person). Student Art Club at JAMS has served more than 65 students so far, with an average of 20 students participating every Wednesday. We're preparing to begin new programs on January 24. Most schools have opted for Visual Arts programs this year for K-5.
7. **Administrator Co-Chairperson** -- Dr. Jacqueline Mora reported on the Academic Support Program for grades 1-8, and noted that principals are working on school plans for student achievement, to be approved by the Board of Education on December 16. The Mariachi program will expand to Samohi next year and connect with a folklorico pilot. Dr. TJ noted the lack of a Dance instructor at Samohi this year and suggested that Mr. Whaley contact Raquel Ramirez at SMC. Lydia Muraro suggested that Mr. Whaley should be involved in hiring all VAPA instructors and that the missing Dance program resulted from a lack of communication between the Samohi principal and Mr. Whaley.
8. **Staff Liaison and VAPA Coordinator** -- Tom Whaley reported on Stairway auditions, procuring sound equipment for Stairway at the Greek Theater, Bergmann funds totaling \$148,000 this year with \$14,000 being used to purchase instruments, the JAMS band concert on November 17, the LMS orchestra concert on November 18, the contemporary play "Eurydice" at MHS, Elementary dance showcases, Samohi alum Eli

Brown winning an international conducting competition in Korea, and the Samohi Viking Marching Band placing 4<sup>th</sup> in Southern California competitions.

9. **Board of Education Liaisons** – Maria Leon-Vazquez was unable to attend. Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein spoke about vaccination clinics and noted that the 1<sup>st</sup> interim budget for 2022-23 will be presented to the BOE on December 9. He also noted the lack of a Dance instructor at Samohi this year and suggested that Mr. Whaley contact Raquel Ramirez at SMC. Lydia Muraro suggested that Mr. Whaley should be involved in hiring all VAPA instructors, and that the missing Dance program this year resulted from a lack of communication between the Samohi principal and Mr. Whaley when the previous instructor resigned in June.

### **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (per the DAC Charge)**

10. **Non-district funding of VAPA instruction** – A summary of non-district funding, including parent donations, was presented.
11. **Fall 2021 VAPA classes and enrollment** – A description of 2021-22 elementary VAPA programs plus middle and high school VAPA classes and enrollment was presented.
12. **Impact of the schedule on arts electives**
  - a. **Master schedule update** – Tabled.
  - b. **Counselors have been informing 10th graders that they can't take U.S. history at SMC this summer because only Samohi's U.S. history class will fulfill the new ACES graduation requirements.** – Janis will email the Supt., BOE President, and Sarah Wahrenbrock, requesting to address the BOE on December 16.
13. **Budget update/timeline for 2022-23** – Dr. TJ noted that the Board of Education would be discussing the budget at the December 9 meeting.
14. **6-Year Arts Education Strategic Plan (2019-2025) update** – Tabled.
15. **6 VAPA DAC vacancies** -- DAC Board Policy & Administrative Regulations not being followed. – Tabled.
16. **Upcoming performances** – A list was included in the agenda.
17. **Media coverage** – A list was included in the agenda.

### **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

18. **Public comments regarding items not on the agenda** – None.
19. **Agenda planning for January 19 meeting** – Mid-Year Report and tabled items
20. **Adjournment at 8:45 PM.**