

Visual & Performing Arts District Advisory Committee (VAPA DAC)

Wednesday, February 17, 2021 – 7:00 PM – via Zoom

AGENDA

7:00 PM – **Call to order and welcome** – Vice Chair Lydia Muraro

7:05 PM – **Approve minutes** from January 2021 meeting (on page 5)

7:10 PM -- **Calendar review**

1. DAC meetings – April 21 and May 12
2. Board of Ed meetings -- <https://www.smmusd.org/Page/5456>

REPORTS

7:15 PM -- **P.S. ARTS** – Rebecca Cardenas

7:20 PM -- **Administrator Co-Chairperson** -- Dr. Jacqueline Mora

7:30 PM – **Staff Liaison and VAPA Coordinator** -- Tom Whaley

7:40 PM -- **Board of Education Liaisons** –

Dr. Maria Leon-Vazquez and Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (per the DAC Charge)

7:50 PM – **VAPA DAC Charge for 2019-20** (approved by the BOE on 9/5/19)

- *Support a comprehensive preK-12 arts education program as an integral part of the core curriculum offered at all SMMUSD students, with dance, media arts, music, theater, and visual arts taught as discrete disciplines and integrated into other subject areas; as we align with and promote the Excellence through Equity Plan, which includes teaching cross-cultural and socio-emotional skills.*
- *Serve as a conduit for parents, teachers, students and community members to inform and make recommendations to the Board of Education on matters related to equitable access and successful participation in comprehensive, sequential, standards-based preK-12 arts education, while comparing the District’s curriculum, scheduling, staffing, instructional materials, equipment, and facilities*

with National and State standards and frameworks; as we align with and promote the Excellence through Equity Plan.

- *Maintain the Board and District commitment to the adoption of a new 6-year SMMUSD Arts Education Strategic Plan. Review and advise this Plan to align with and promote the Excellence through Equity Plan.*

7:50 -- DAC Mid-Year Report to the Board of Education – review/approve

8:15 -- Career Technical Education Pathways, Capstone, Samohi Academy Program

- Career Technical Education** -- <https://www.smmusd.org/domain/4311>-- CTE helps students gain valuable academic and technical skills for postsecondary institutions and high-wage, high-skill, high-demand careers. Nationwide, students are graduating college and career-ready through a variety of sequential career-related courses called “**pathways.**” Samohi offers 5 pathways in Arts, Media, & Entertainment (AME), Transportation, and Engineering Design.

AME: <https://www.smmusd.org/Page/6060>

Samohi hosts FOUR pathways in the AME sector:

Film, Video Production Pathway -- <https://www.smmusd.org/Page/6061>

Graphic Design Pathway -- <https://www.smmusd.org/Page/6079>

Photography Pathway -- <https://www.smmusd.org/Page/6080>

Professional Dance/Choreography Pathway –

<https://www.smmusd.org/Page/6081>

- Capstone** – Each of the CTE pathways, such as Professional Dance / Choreography, has 3 courses: an **Introductory Course**, which explores the variety of career pathways available in that discipline, a **Concentrator Course**, which refines skills and introduces production elements and company organization and management in professional careers, and a **Capstone Course**, which will apply skills to create project-based performances for live, film and video production. Students will prepare audition or choreographic portfolios, learn business/managerial skills, and develop a professional career plan.
- Samohi Academy Program** – The Mission Statement seems to only be accessible on Google via this 10 minute video (and it cannot be copied & pasted): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TJCOFzkYqCA&feature=youtu.be> – The 4 academies are expected to be fully implemented by 2024 in the new Exploration Building. All students will have access beginning in 11th grade. Each student will

take 3 integrated classes: English, marketing, and content. The 4 academies will be **Media Arts**; Engineering & Computer Science (Project Lead the Way); Law, Government & Public Policy; and Health & Wellness.

- d. ***Some questions for discussion purposes:*** Are the CTE Pathways (including the Capstone classes) and Academies already being implemented in 2020-21? If so, how many students are enrolled in them? How are they scheduled? How are the Arts, Media & Entertainment pathways integrated with the existing Samohi VAPA classes, in which thousands of students are enrolled? Are Dance classes, for example, only of value to students if they plan to become professional dancers or choreographers? Or are these classes of value because they contribute to a well-rounded education?

8:45 PM -- **California Dept. of Education; National Coalition for Core Arts Standards**
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/pn/fb/cdecalendar.asp> -- The CDE encourages districts to recognize March as “Arts Education Month” & “Music in Our Schools Month.”

“**Arts ARE Education**” resolution: <https://www.artsareeducation.org/our-resolution>

“**Arts ARE Education**” is sponsored and led by the **National Coalition for Core Arts Standards (NCCAS)**. Founded in 2011, NCCAS is an alliance of leading national arts and arts education organizations, dedicated to the work of creating and supporting national arts standards. NCCAS leadership organizations are:

American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE)
Arts Education Partnership
Educational Theatre Association (EdTA)
National Association for Music Education
National Art Education Association (NAEA)
National Dance Education Organization (NDEO)
State Education Agency for Directors of Arts Education (SEADAE)
Media Arts Committee of the NCCAS
Young Audiences Arts for Learning

The **School Board Resolution** asks that decision-making bodies commit to maintaining their arts education programs in the 2021-22 school year and beyond, by passing the Resolution as it reads, or a customized version that aligns with their schools’ existing programs.

The Arts ARE Education Resolution (draft):

Whereas all students have the right to an arts education that includes dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual arts taught by certified arts educators, in partnership with community providers.

Whereas arts education has the power to change students’ lives.

Whereas arts education is a key to re-igniting students’ learning in a post-COVID-19 world.

Whereas arts education helps nurture healthy, inclusive communities where all points of view are respected.

Whereas arts education experiences help students understand their own cultural roots and appreciate others’ cultural roots and traditions.

Whereas arts education supports the social and emotional well-being of students and fosters a more positive, safer school environment.

Whereas arts education is part of the well-rounded education for every student as outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act and in state law.

Therefore, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District commits to maintaining its Arts Education programs in the 2021-22 school year and beyond.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

8:50 PM – Public comments regarding items not on the agenda -- Public Comments is the time when **members of the audience** may address the DAC on items not on the meeting’s agenda. The Brown Act states that Committee members may not engage in discussion of issues raised except to ask clarifying questions or to refer the matter to staff.

8:55 PM – Agenda planning for April 21 meeting

9:00 PM – Adjournment