

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

Wednesday, October 27, 2021 – via Zoom

## MINUTES

### **Attendees:**

Annie Azzariti, Deborah Berek, Scott Ferguson, Janis Gabbert, Zina Josephs, Lydia Murraro, Dominic Piturro, John Redfield, Rebecca Cardenas, Linda Greenfield, Carey Upton, Christian Chamorro, Tom Whaley

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Co-Chair Janis Gabbert.
2. **Virtual tour of new JAMS Aud** -- Chief Operations Officer Carey Upton and Technical Theater Technician Christian Chamorro led the DAC on a virtual tour of the new John Adams Middle School Performing Arts Center. Carey stated that he plans to have a grand opening in February. The PAC includes a new 2<sup>nd</sup> floor choir room. Next summer, the tiers in one of the instrumental music rooms will be removed to create a flat floor. At Lincoln Middle School, seats, carpet, paint, and tile have been upgraded. He's planning technical upgrades to the Malibu High auditorium (which was constructed about 20 years ago). The Malibu Campus Plan includes replacing the old Cabrillo Elementary School campus with a new high school campus. Carey also discussed VAPA facilities concerns compiled in an informal survey of VAPA teachers.
3. **Election of DAC officers** -- tabled.
4. **Minutes** from the September meeting were approved by unanimous consent. (Berek)
5. **Calendar review** – Janis reported that she's updated <https://smmarts.net>
6. **P.S. ARTS** – Rebecca Cardenas reported that they plan start the 15-week programs in January and are hoping to distribute arts kits in mid-January. The JAMS lunchtime art club has started up again. In Malibu, Malibu and Webster Elementary Schools are moving forward with a visual arts program from a different provider.
7. **Administrator Co-Chairperson** -- Dr. Jacqueline Mora was unable to attend.
8. **Staff Liaison and VAPA Coordinator** –

- a. Tom Whaley reported that Dr. Drati has okayed moving choir and wind classes indoors.
  - b. The Samohi band concert last night was held in Barnum. Audiences at performances have to wear masks and show proof of either a vaccination or a recent COVID test.
  - c. The Dia de los Muertos art exhibit will open on October 29. The new, larger Roberts Art Gallery is in the old textbook room next to Barnum.
  - d. The district will fund grants for dance, theater, and visual arts, as well as recorders for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in the Malibu schools.
  - e. Elementary music classes are meeting only once a week.
  - f. The Samohi dance teacher resigned in June and has not yet been replaced.
9. **Board of Education Liaisons** – Dr. Maria Leon-Vazquez was unable to attend. Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein spoke regarding the district budget, requesting that the DAC compile data regarding non-district funding of VAPA programs, especially parent donations. Lydia Muraro and Alisa Facchini Stewart are officers on the SMAPA Board (Santa Monica Arts Parents Association), and Zina will check with JAMS, LMS, SMASH, and the Malibu Arts Angels.
10. **Master schedule impact on arts electives** – If the master schedule allowed for 2 electives, the mariachi class could move into the school day and students could also take a band, choir, or orchestra class.
11. **6-Year Arts Education Strategic Plan update** – Tom reported that the draft plan has been ready to present to the Board of Education for 3 years.
12. **6 VAPA DAC vacancies** – Zina noted at the September meeting that only one new VAPA DAC member has been appointed since 2017, and questioned whether the district is following Board Policy 1220 and the accompanying Administrative Regulations. Janis stated that she will contact Gail Pinsker, and John Redfield suggested using Peach Jar as the most effective way to reach parents.
13. **Public comments regarding items not on the agenda** – None.
14. **Agenda planning for December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting** – Report from the ad hoc funding committee.
15. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM. (Berek)