

Visual & Performing Arts District Advisory Committee (VAPA DAC)

Wednesday, May 21, 2025 – 7 PM – in-person

Board Room, SMMUSD District Office, 1717 - 4th Street, Santa Monica 90401

AGENDA

VAPA DAC roster for 2024-25 and when terms expire:

Annie Azzariti – June 2025 (need to re-apply)

Aimee Koeplin – June 2025 (need to re-apply)

Deborah Berek – June 2026

Janis Gabbert – June 2026

Domenic Piturro – June 2026

Zina Josephs – June 2027

Rebecca Terlizzi – June 2027

Michael Mollo – June 2027

7:00 PM -- Call to order and welcome

7:05 PM -- Approve minutes from February and April meetings

7:10 PM -- Calendar review

- Board of Ed meetings: May 28, June 5, 18, and 26
<https://www.smmusd.org/domain/2977>
- VAPA DAC meeting: This is our last meeting for 2024-25
<https://www.smmusd.org/Page/3815>

REPORTS

7:15 PM -- Staff Liaison and VAPA Coordinator -- Tom Whaley

7:45 PM -- Board of Education Liaisons – Maria Leon-Vazquez and
Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (per the DAC Charge)

8:00 PM – VAPA DAC charge for 2024-25:

- *Support a comprehensive preK-12 arts education program as an integral part of*

- the core curriculum offered to 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.*

1. DAC End-of-Year Report – Review and approve -- due date?

2. VAPA DAC vacancies

- a. **Discuss strategies for recruiting new members**
- b. **Discuss strategies for getting DAC applications processed**
- c. **DAC application form:**

<https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/Domain/304/DACappEngSP.pdf>

3. Media coverage

Lights, Camera, Action! Samohi is hosting its 22nd Annual Santa Monica Film Festival

5/13/25 -- SMMUSD news release

<https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/domain/2939/2024-25/PR-SamohiFilmFestival051325.pdf>

Folklórico Dance and Mariachi Festival Planned for May 17, 2025 Hosted by SMMUSD, Sounds Like LA and DanzAlianza

4/30/25 – SMMUSD news release

<https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/domain/2939/2024-25/PR-FolkloricoMariach051725.pdf>

Dr. Jim Wang Named New Coordinator, Visual and Performing Arts

4/29/25 – SMMUSD news release

<https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/domain/2939/2024-25/PR-WangVAPACoordinator040325.pdf>

Dual Santa Monica and Malibu Art Showcases Celebrate Student Creativity

4/22/25 – Santa Monica Mirror

<https://smmirror.com/2025/04/dual-santa-monica-and-malibu-school-art-shows-celebrate-student-creativity/>

“Middle and high school students from across the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will present their artistic talents at upcoming showcases celebrating visual arts education....”

JAMS Music Teacher Angela Woo Honored with 2025 Outstanding Middle School Educator Award

3/12/25 – Santa Monica Daily Press – Community News

www.smdp.com

4. Calendar of upcoming performances and arts exhibits

May 22 – LMS Choir Concert

May 23 – Samohi Music Composition & Technology Capstone Performance

May 23 -- 22nd Annual Santa Monica Film Festival

May 29 – JAMS Choir Concert

May 29, 30, 31 – Samohi Theater “Public Domain”

May 29 – LMS Band Concert

May 29 – MMS and MHS Orchestra Concert

May 31 – Samohi Orchestra Senior Gala

June 3 – Samohi Choral Concert

June 4 – MMS and MHS Choir Concert

June 5 – LMS “Pops” Concert

June 5 – Samohi Jazz Spring Concert with Stanley Clarke – at Barnum Hall

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

8:45 PM – **Public comments regarding items not on the agenda** -- 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.

8:50 PM – **Agenda planning for May 21 meeting**

8:55 PM – **Announcements**

9:00 -- **Adjournment**