

Visual & Performing Arts District Advisory Committee (VAPA DAC)

Wednesday, January 25, 2023 – via Zoom

Attendees: Annie Azzariti, Deborah Berek, Janis Gabbert, Zina Josephs, Aimee Koeplin, Maria Leon-Vazquez, Elizabeth Manco, Dr. Jacqueline Mora, Lydia Muraro, Domi Piturro, Tom Whaley

MINUTES (draft)

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Co-Chair Janis Gabbert.
2. **Minutes** -- November meeting minutes were approved by unanimous consent. (Berek)
3. **Calendar review**
4. **P.S. ARTS** – the 2022-23 rotations and arts disciplines were included in the agenda. The district-funded programs are only 15 weeks again this year. Some schools are using Ed Foundation stretch grants to augment the program.
5. **Administrator Co-Chairperson** -- Dr. Jacqueline Mora reported on the LCAP process, the goal of 95% participation rates in local assessments to inform instructional design, professional development, attendance, and trying to eliminate the “opportunity gap.” SMMUSD has set 3 goals to meet the state’s 8 priorities.
6. **Staff Liaison and VAPA Coordinator** -- Tom Whaley reported on the upcoming mariachi and folklorico informance at Edison, the upcoming Samohi Jazz Band concert, the first Elementary Honor rehearsals for Stairway (choir at LMS, orchestra & band at Franklin), the Samohi mariachi program (Allen Loyd built special cabinets for the instruments), the Samohi Symphony was a featured ensemble at an SCSBOA conference, Jason Aiello led a sight-reading session focusing on diverse composers (DEI), participants in the SCSBOA and all-state honor ensembles have been selected, and 4 new VAPA courses are being approved: middle school folklorico and mariachi, high school theatre directing, and high school music composition (the last will be dual enrollment with Chris Horvath as instructor).
7. **Board of Education Liaisons** – Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein was unable to attend the meeting. Maria Leon-Vazquez spoke about the November election, Dr. Drati leaving the district, the process for hiring a new superintendent, in-person only Board meetings starting in February, the upcoming Board retreat, Sarah Wahrenbrock’s husband’s health concerns, and possible reductions in district funding from the Joint Facilities MOU as well as the statewide budget deficit.
8. **DAC Mid-Year Report to the Board of Education** – The rest of the meeting was devoted to discussing the draft report. A motion to approve the amended report, while leaving the staffing section for the ad hoc committee (Janis Gabbert, Lydia

Muraro, Deborah Berek, Elizabeth Manco) to refine the language, was approved by unanimous consent. (Josephs)

9. **Adjournment** – The rest of the agenda was tabled due to the late hour, and the meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.