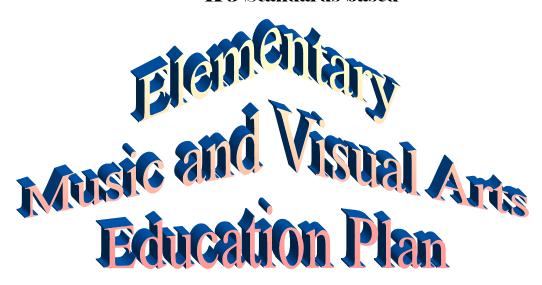
## Las Virgenes Unified School District

K-5 Standards-based





Presented to the Las Virgenes School Board July 22, 2008

### **Las Virgenes Unified School District**

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All of the arts depend upon the use of the human's most exquisite capacity – judgment . . . They are fundamental resources through which the world is viewed, meaning is created, and the mind is developed.

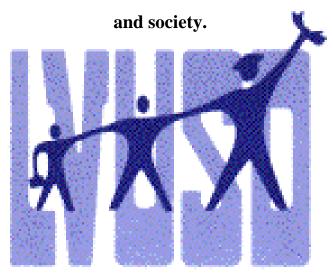
---- Elliot Eisner

## Las Virgenes Unified School District Elementary Music and Visual Arts Task Force Members

- Mary Schillinger, Assistant Superintendent of Education
- Rose Dunn, Director of Elementary and Alternative Education
- Brent Noyes, Principal, Yerba Buena Elementary School
- Somer Harding, Principal, Chaparral Elementary School
- Dr. Abbe Irshay, Principal, White Oak Elementary School
- Sue LeMarr, Teacher, Round Meadow Elementary School
- Colleen Fitzgerald, Teacher, Willow Elementary School
- Carol Harris, Teacher, Bay Laurel Elementary School
- Kika Wilson, Teacher, Round Meadow Elementary School
- Joan Woods, Teacher, Lupin Hill Elementary School
- Ann Lazo, Community Member
- Celena Turney, Arts Education Consultant

# Vision Statement Of Las Virgenes Unified School District

The mission of the Las Virgenes Unified School District is to ensure that all programs are dedicated toward enhancing student achievement, and that each school is a humanistic organization, valuing students emotionally and academically, providing the highest quality education possible in a personalized environment. We aspire to enable each student to realize maximum potential as a responsible citizen who will enhance the community



# Vision Statement Of the Visual and Performing Arts Task Force

It is our vision to offer a balanced, comprehensive arts program where arts are studied as discrete disciplines while bringing academics to life. We strive to empower all students to be creators and learners – providing opportunities for hands-on, inspired, standards-based instruction in the areas of artistic perception, creative expression, historical and cultural context, aesthetic valuing, and connections, relationships, and applications. It is essential that we develop a culture that fosters creative expression, enhanced by collaborative partnerships in the arts. We will work to enable every school to be resource-ready to create and display arts, everywhere all the time.

## **Project Background and Planning Process**

In early 2007, the Las Virgenes Unified School District formed task forces to develop recommendations for the Board of Education regarding how the SB 1131 Arts and Music block grant funds could best be allocated to meet district-wide needs. Three areas of greatest need were identified:

- 1. Consistent implementation of district-wide Elementary Music, Visual Arts, and Physical Education programs.
- 2. Additional funding to support existing Secondary Music, Visual Arts, and Physical Education programs.
- 3. More Professional Development opportunities.

In February 2008, the district engaged Arts Education consultant, Celena Turney to provide coaching and group facilitation for the development of its district-wide Elementary Music and Visual Arts Program. A Visual and Performing Arts Task Force was convened and designed the implementation plan under consideration at the July 22, 2008 Board of Education meeting. The following components formed an integral part of the planning process:

- 1. 3-5 year Practical Vision Statement
- 2. Strategic Directions
- 3. Implementation Plan for the 2008/2009 school year

### State of the Arts in the Las Virgenes Unified School District

#### **Strengths**

- Parent groups have funded 16 Elementary Music and Visual Arts Specialists
- There is an interest in the arts from the district's administrators, teachers, and families
- LVUSD benefits from the wealth of talented artists and arts institutions in the district and community
- Our students are enthusiastic learners
- There are many opportunities for student performances and art displays
- LVUSD's Elementary Arts Program enjoys the financial support of district parent groups

#### Challenges

- There is a lack of equity across the district in the Elementary Arts Program in implementation, space and resources, funding, and qualifications of Arts Specialists
- The Elementary Arts Program is not consistently offered
- Funding streams to sustain an Elementary Arts Program have not been identified
- There is little time to teach the arts during the school day
- The arts are not as valued as other core areas
- Teachers and administrators lack awareness of the VAPA standards
- There are scarce opportunities for standards-based PD in the arts

## Strategic Directions for Elementary Music and Visual Arts

#### **Sustainability**

- Building dynamic and informed leadership in the arts
- Garnering abundant ongoing funds to sustain arts education
- Procuring resources and space for the optimal arts experience

#### **Infrastructure**

- Launching mentoring relationships that spark arts experiences
- Community Partnerships
- Celebrating and showcasing our young artists

#### **Content**

- Improving Practice
- Exploring and connecting the academic world through the arts

# First Year Goals for Elementary Music and Visual Arts Education

- Identify fundraising activities to support the district's Elementary Arts plan.
- Implement 1 major fundraising event.
- Develop resources for ongoing community art exposure opportunities for students.
- Design a community event to showcase students' VAPA accomplishments.
- Hire a VAPA Coordinator.
- Establish communication network.
- Develop a multi-faceted district-wide plan for professional development in the arts.

# Elementary Music and Visual Arts Funds – Phase one

Description	Restricted	Restricted	PFA	Corporate/Grant
	On-going	One-time		_
VAPA Coordinator	\$55,000			
(.5 FTE Admin)				
Visual Arts	\$40,000			
Coach/TOSA				
Music Coach/TOSA	\$40,000			
Curriculum Materials				
<u>Fall 2008</u>	\$90,000			
Visual Art: K, 1, 2				
Music: 3, 4, 5				
<u>Spring 2009</u>	\$90,000			
Visual Art: 3, 4, 5				
Music: K, 1, 2				
Supplies (\$12. per child)	\$50,000			
Consultant Fee:		\$10,000		
Professional				
Development for				
Teachers,				
Administrators				
Teacher Release Time		\$38,000		
Specialist Release Time		\$3,000		
PD Materials		\$8,000		
Music Specialists			\$248,000	
Visual Arts Specialists			\$135,000	
Art Festival Showcase				\$10,000
Art Directory				\$500
Fundraising				\$10,500
Totals	\$365,000*	\$59,000	\$383,000	\$21,000

<sup>\*</sup> The curriculum materials are a one-time expense leaving \$185,000 on-going.

# Practical Vision Statement for Elementary Music and Visual Arts Education in LVUSD

Arts Bringing Academics to Life	Every Child Every Art	Every School Resource Ready
		for the Arts
<ul> <li>Thematic projects for each grade</li> <li>An incorporated curriculum</li> <li>ARTS INTEGRATION:         <ul> <li>language, social studies, science,</li> <li>math, PE</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>ARTS PARTICIPATION:         Every child has an instrument, sings,         dances, paints</li> <li>Every student involved in a comprehensive         art program</li> <li>Movement instruction for all</li> <li>Visual &amp; Performing Arts at all schools</li> <li>Theater basics/presentation skills for all</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Every school is equipped for all the arts: space, materials</li> <li>Appropriate resources</li> <li>Visual Arts Program at every Elementary School with kiln.</li> </ul>

Hands and Voices Making Music	Empowering Students as Creators and Leaders	A Culture that Fosters Creative Expression
<ul> <li>Orff instrument instruction for all students</li> <li>Orchestral instrument instruction offered</li> <li>CHILD-ORIENTED:         <ul> <li>Age appropriate instruments</li> <li>Appropriately themed dance/music</li> </ul> </li> <li>4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade violin program</li> <li>Numerous chorus opportunities offered</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>CHILD INITIATED:         writes plays         writes music         creates own vision</li> <li>Students as VAPA leaders</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>CREATIVE COMMUNITY:         <ul> <li>Diversity, appreciation, sharing, supportive</li> </ul> </li> <li>Students trying new things</li> <li>Hands-on experience</li> </ul>

Arts on Display	Creative	Inspired	
everywhere all the time.	Collaborative Partnership	<b>Standards-Based Instruction</b>	
	for the Arts	In the Arts	
<ul> <li>Arts Festival where the arts are displayed</li> <li>Pod cast of Visual Arts Programs</li> <li>Spring Arts Festival</li> <li>Visual Arts Displays: color, texture, design</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Community involved and supportive</li> <li>Community/business support</li> <li>Arts Appreciation:         Professional theatre, museums, concerts     </li> <li>Exposure</li> <li>Mentoring by professionals or high school students</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Sequential K-12 programs</li> <li>Professional art instruction for all</li> </ul>	

## Strategic Directions for Music and Visual Arts Education in Las Virgenes USD

What innovative, substantial actions will move us toward our vision?

Sustainability  Policy, Funding, Program Evaluation, Communication, Advocacy, District Leadership	Building dynamic and informed leadership in the arts.  District-wide agreement for hiring of teachers of the Arts Hire art specialists Educate principals to ensure accountability	Garnering abundant ongoing funds to sustain arts education.  • Family art night fundraiser • Auction student art work • "Grammy in the Schools" • Education & celebration of the Arts Day	Procuring resources and space for the optimal arts experience.  Provide resources for specialists Designate arts classrooms Parents buy an Arts "Wish-List" item Bungalow for Music/Art	
Infrastructure  Admin/Coordination, Personnel, Facilities and Equipment, Partnership and Collaboration	Launching mentoring relationships that spark arts experiences.  • High school/college mentors for the arts • Partnerships with universities • Host family arts nights (creating, making together) • Multi-cultural assemblies in the arts • Field trips • Artists' career day	<ul> <li>Display art in community business</li> <li>Multi-school arts show in community</li> <li>Grammy in the Schools"</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Celebrating and showcasing our young artists.</li> <li>"Fashion Show" of art (background music played by students)</li> <li>Schools designate space for displays</li> <li>Access on the web</li> </ul>	
Content  Curriculum, Pedagogy, Student Assessment, Professional Development	<ul> <li>Regular meetings for Arts specialists (make sure on "same page")</li> <li>Professional development of music standards (fun seminar/day retreat?)</li> <li>Quarterly specialists meetings</li> <li>Collaboration among specialists</li> <li>Teaching arts standards</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Exploring and connecting the academic world through the arts.</li> <li>Specialists and teachers coordinating (integrated) curriculum</li> <li>Grade level thematic projects</li> <li>5 minutes a day Arts Appreciation</li> </ul>		

Strategic Direction: Garnering abundant ongoing funds to sustain arts education.

1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Goals	Sep-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Identify fundraising activities to support the district's Elementary Arts plan.  Establish an executive fundraising committee with VAPA coordinator  Establish a VAPA Foundation  Research available resources  Develop a communication plan	Establish a fundraising committee  Create committee description  Identify and recruit members (through city councils, principal and site meetings, school website, financial advisors, Chambers of Commerce)  Schedule and calendar mtgs Research funding sources  Public funds/grants  Corporate sponsors/grants  Private funds (Foundation)  Financial advisors  Develop a communication plan  Create letter of introduction and intent for recruiting committee members and financial purposes  Coordinate w/ VAPA TF  Inform community of arts activities  Establish a VAPA Foundation	VAPA Task Force meeting  Provide update on activities  Respond to identified needs of VAPA TF  Identify funding deadlines  Plot deadlines for grants on calendar Gather required documentation  Write grants and proposals; submit	VAPA Task Force meeting Provide update on activities Respond to identified needs of VAPA TF Write summary report of fundraising activities to board Make recommendations for next year Communicate work of committee to community	VAPA Task Force planning sessions for 2009-2010  Begin pre-planning Propose budget for following year (projected)  Establish Endowment for the Arts
<ul> <li>Implement 1 major fundraising event</li> <li>Establish an event committee</li> <li>Design a high-profile district-wide fundraising event</li> </ul>	Establish an event committee     Identify and recruit members     Schedule and calendar meetings     Select rep. to attend Exec. Comm. meetings     Establish event subcommittees     Begin event planning     Brainstorm ideas     Identify key players     Develop marketing and communication plan     Collaborate with community and district players	<ul> <li>Continue event planning</li> <li>Provide updates to larger committees</li> <li>Attend to last minute details</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Continue event planning</li> <li>Provide updates to larger committees</li> <li>Attend to last minute details</li> <li>Have the event!!!</li> <li>Celebrate the success</li> <li>Communicate to greater community</li> <li>Debrief event</li> <li>Evaluate</li> <li>Spot planning for next year</li> <li>Write Thank yous</li> </ul>	Establish event committee     leadership     Schedule and calendar     meetings     Select venue

Strategic Direction: Establishing District-wide Community Partnerships. 1st Year **Ouarter 1 Ouarter 3 Ouarter 2 Ouarter 4** Sep-Dec Goals Jan-Mar Apr-Jun Jul-Sep Establish a community arts VAPA Task Force meeting VAPA Task Force meeting VAPA Task Force planning **Develop resources for** partnership committee sessions for 2009-2010 Provide update on activities; Provide update on activities; ongoing community art Identify and recruit members. communicate needs to VAPA communicate needs to VAPA Begin pre-planning exposure opportunities representing all strands of the Propose budget for following for students Respond to identified needs of Respond to identified needs of year (projected) Schedule/calendar mtgs. VAPA TF VAPA TF Celebrate progress of 1st year's • Begin exhibiting Develop a communication plan Continue development of Publish directory of community work student work community resources Internal/external reach via arts partners Rest! (revolving art shows) Venues email, e-letter, website Ensure that district (primary Thank yous to community Provide info for regular opps and secondary) student and Artisans partners Publish a directory teacher reps are included in to collaborate Volunteer groups Recount experiences to gain of community arts conversation of needs and Begin resource development **Event Support** new ideas and perspectives opportunities partners and exhibit Set goals/expectations for Continue showcasing student work for next vear Begin to showcase student work Evaluate success of showcases involvement and collaboration venues. Brainstorm involvement opportunities for partners Identify appropriate venues for showcases Discuss budget/negotiate Establish criteria for showings Establish an arts showcase VAPA Task Force meeting Hold showcase event Begin event planning for next year **Design a community** committee Provide update on activities; Celebrate the success!!! Establish event committee event to showcase communicate needs to Identify and recruit school Communicate to greater leadership students' VAPA and community members committee Schedule and calendar community accomplishments. Schedule/calendar mtgs. Establish criterion for student work Debrief event meetings Research existing community arts **Quality** and medium Evaluate and make Select venue • Identify student festivals Outcome of standards-based Consider long term goals recommendations for next work to be Find venue for showcase work (look at instruction) vear showcased event Continue event planning Write Thank yous Develop event budget and Provide updates to larger Research existing communication plans committees community arts Report to VAPA TF Attend to last minute details Select date, time, venue for festivals Set up event subcommittees LVUSD Arts Festival. Develop budget and Kick-off for ongoing, communication plans revolving art shows?

Strategic Direction: Building dynamic and informed leadership in the arts.

1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Goals	Sep-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
<ul> <li>Hire a VAPA</li> <li>Coordinator.</li> <li>Establish the roles, duties, and responsibilities of the position.</li> </ul>	Pre-quarter activities  Develop criteria for job description  Interview committee formed  Advertise for position, interview, select VAPA coordinator  Establish duties of VAPA coordinator  Develop annual calendar  Site visits  Coordinate Elementary VAPA activities  Plan and oversee meetings w/ VAPA TF  Serve as liaison for	Provide update on activities; communicate needs to VAPA TF     Respond to identified needs of VAPA TF     Serve as liaison for district VAPA activities     Continue site visits     Coordinate resources and opportunities for PD to build district capacity for the arts     Establish schedule for regular communication between schools across district	Hold VAPA Task Force meetings     Provide update on activities; communicate needs to VAPA TF     Respond to identified needs of VAPA TF     Serve as liaison for district VAPA activities     Continue site visits     Coordinate resources and opportunities for PD to build district capacity for the arts     Continue regular communication between schools across district	VAPA Task Force planning sessions for 2009-2010  Begin pre-planning Calendar meetings and events for next year Propose budget for following year (projected) Compile committee reports for board summary of the district's arts activities Evaluate First Year progress
Establish communication network.  • Build relationship between VAPA TF, schools, and district office.  • Develop regular communication plan to meet internal and external needs.	community resources  Link stakeholders though communication.  Investigate ways to use technological resources (existing and new) to communicate  Establish regular means of communication credibility/viability of program Communicate opportunities for stakeholders to gain capacity for arts instruction.  Meetings, seminars, or trainings on understanding the standards & how to implement in instruction  Calendar meetings	Communicate district elementary arts activities  Newsletter/website  Set deadlines for submissions Administer an inventory of arts resources at the school sites  Identify needs  Facilitate procurement by aligning need w/ vision of arts ed prgm. Coordinate identified arts learning opportunities  Communicate logistics to students, teachers, and administrators  Budget/finalize contracts	Compile and communicate results of resource inventory  Prepare report for administrators, VAPA TF  Make recommendations for next year Coordinate identified arts learning opportunities  Communicate logistics to students, teachers, and administrators  Budget and finalize contracts  Assist with follow-up (evaluation)	Evaluate effectiveness of 1st year communication efforts  Internal/external efforts  Design plan to accommodate gaps  Research opportunities to expand reach  Report findings to VAPA TF

Strategic Direction: Impr	roving Practice.			
1 <sup>st</sup> Year Goals	Quarter 1 Sep-Dec	Quarter 2 Jan-Mar	Quarter 3 Apr-Jun	Quarter 4 Jul-Sep
Develop a multi-faceted district-wide plan for professional development in the arts.  Research outside programs and providers of arts-centered PD  Establish criteria for improvements in instruction of the specialist to students	Establish a professional development committee and subcommittees (fine art and music)  Identify and recruit members, parents, specialists, school reps  Identify a leader  Decide who will attend mtgs, trainings, fieldtrips  Schedule/calendar mtgs.  Survey PD needs  Create survey instrument with VAPA coordinator  Distribute to classroom teachers, arts specialists, community  Compile/communicate results to VAPA TF, VAPA Coord., and administrators  Develop a comprehensive plan for professional development at the elementary level  Discuss/plan for promoting "best practices" in instruction  Ensure that plan builds capacity for arts ed at all levels  Include on-site trainings, mentoring/coaching, opps. for collaboration at grade level or school site meetings, conferences, off-site arts venues, etc.  Coordinate plan implementation and communicate to VAPA TF  Plan for evaluation of PD	Research outside programs and providers of arts-centered PD  Investigate in-classroom coaching possibilities for specialists or teachers  Plan fieldtrips for committee to see quality arts ed programs in action  Network with schools  Establish monthly communication with principal, teaching specialists, and VAPA coordinator  Establish criteria for improvements in instruction of the specialist to students  Incorporate standards in each lesson  Assist arts specialists to design program with scope and sequence  Benchmarks – "These are standards that we covered in K by the end of the year."  Investigate ways to integrate arts instruction into other curricular areas	Implement PD plan district-wide  Plan for opps to bring teachers and specialists together to see where the gaps are  Establish forum for specialists  Set dates and venues  To share teaching techniques  Content and Standards-based instruction	Pilot an integrated unit with selected specialists and classroom teachers