



# East Whittier City School District Arts Education Strategic Plan 2016-2019

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## EWCSO Guiding Philosophy, Goals, and Educational Objectives

### Philosophy

It is the aim of the East Whittier City School District to provide students with the knowledge of those academic skills and concepts, which they must learn and apply to function effectively in our society.

The East Whittier City School District in partnership with parents endeavors to motivate, inspire, and encourage all students to use their unique potentials to reach their highest level of academic achievement and emotional and physical wellbeing.

### Goals

- All students will reach high academic standards, attaining proficiency or better in reading, writing and mathematics.
- English Learners will become proficient in English and reach high academic standards attaining proficiency or better in reading, writing and mathematics.
- All students will be educated in learning environments that are safe, drug-free and conducive to learning. School staff members will form influential relationships with students and will focus on building assets in them that will help them grow into capable, responsible and healthy young people.
- All students will be taught by highly qualified teachers. No Child Left Behind defines a highly qualified teacher as someone who has: 1) a bachelor's degree, 2) full state certification, and 3) demonstrated subject matter competency.

## Arts Education Vision Statement

In 2008 the East Whittier City School District developed an arts education strategic plan. In 2016 the district decided to update the vision and develop new actions for the future. The district envisions that by 2019 its arts education program will include:

- Relevant, experiential, and standards based TK-8 Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) curriculum
- Equitable access to VAPA
- Celebrations that showcase student achievement in the arts
- Professional exposure to VAPA
- Dynamic district-wide community partnerships
- On-going multi-funded fiscal support
- Collaboration between arts specialists and generalists that build capacity
- Dedicated arts facilities and resources

The East Whittier City School District Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) planning team identified the following strengths the district will build on and the challenges it will face as they move towards the district vision for arts education.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Strengths</b> <i>Momentum Towards Vision</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenges</b> <i>Forces Resisting Our New Direction</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The district has a desire to achieve the elements of the vision: <i>The Pluses:</i> Strong mind-set and momentum to implement arts education A collaborative community</li> <li><i>Opportunities in achieving the vision:</i> <i>It will bring about equity and improve arts programs</i> <i>It will shift the district’s understanding of the power of the arts</i></li> <li>• Already established leadership support (School Board, Superintendent, etc.) <i>The Pluses:</i> This is a must-have that provides comfort, encouragement, direction, and validation</li> <li><i>Opportunities in achieving the vision:</i> <i>It will facilitate increased funding and value of the arts</i></li> <li><i>Other strengths:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enthusiasm in the district</li> <li>• Good examples of arts in action</li> <li>• Committed teachers and administrators</li> <li>• Dedication to STEAM and STEM</li> <li>• An Arts Education Foundation in place</li> <li>• Parent support</li> <li>• An Art friendly city</li> <li>• Opportunities to include the arts In LCAP</li> <li>• <i>Arts for All</i> partnerships</li> <li>• Passionate arts advocates</li> <li>• Dedicated TOSA arts lead</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restricted State Funding <i>Issue:</i> <i>How To</i> expand and deepen community, PTA, and outside resources support of VAPA</li> <li>• Inflexible Master Schedule <i>Issue:</i> <i>How To</i> retain more middle school specialists and ensure professional development for generalists</li> <li>• In certain cases the arts are devalued <i>Issue:</i> <i>How To</i> promote the arts as an integral part of the curriculum</li> <li><i>Other challenges:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excessive demands on school staff</li> <li>• Sporadic site funding</li> <li>• Sporadic PTA support</li> <li>• A need for more transparent communication</li> <li>• Insecurity among teachers in utilizing the arts</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## CURRENT REALITY

### VAPA PROGRAMING IN PLACE:

- VAPA TOSA Team (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>) Visual Arts, Music, Dance, and P.E.
- Visual Arts teachers at middle schools (two out of three)
- Instrumental at three middle schools
- Theatre at one middle school
- Theatrical and musical performances at seven out of ten elementary schools
- Choir at some schools
- Elementary and middle schools integrate arts into their core classes
- Ninety eight teachers tie their visual arts training to a core subject
- K-1 Music Center Assemblies
- All district art show (K-8 Visual Arts) open to community
- Community projects in the arts
- Folklorico dance after school with community outreach opportunities
- A forty percent time arts TOSA (Teacher on special assignment)
- Boel Wille, visual arts teacher CAEA award winning program-Granada middle school
- Video Production classes at middle school (Hillview was awarded two crystal apples)
- Video/Podcasts presentations across school at one elementary school
- Meet the Masters at three elementary schools
- Eighty percent of the schools participate in PTA organized "Reflections" (visual arts, literature, and music entries)

## FOCUS AREAS

Following are the East Whittier City School District focus areas, goals, and actions to support achieving the vision and addressing the challenges.

### A. Establish teaching and learning content for Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA)

#### Goal 1: Implement state VAPA standards and framework

##### Actions:

- a. Provide professional development to integrate VAPA standards
- b. Develop implementation schedule of VAPA teams TK-8 by identifying key standards

### B. Develop infrastructure to support VAPA for all students

#### Goal 2: Provide a structure of leadership for VAPA within the district

##### Actions:

- a. Establish key responsibilities for VAPA lead/coordinator
- b. Create a communication plan that involves all stakeholders; VAPA lead, administrators, teachers, school sites and community
- c. Utilize district mailing, blackboard (automated caller system) and all social media outlets

**Goal 3: Ensure dedicated time for professional development**

**Actions:**

- a. Determine professional development needs
- b. Schedule on-going professional development
- c. Calendar professional leader community and services on Tuesday's (early release day)
- d. Allow for outside professional development opportunities

**Goal 4: Ensure equitable access to VAPA TK-5**

**Actions:**

- a. Develop cross-curriculum VAPA lessons aligned to key TK-5 standards
- b. Implement Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) into other content areas

**Goal 5: Ensure equitable course access to VAPA grades 6-8**

**Actions:**

- a. Establish an infrastructure that ensures that 6th-8th students have access to VAPA
- b. Refine and expand current VAPA courses

**C. Ensure sustainability for arts resources**

**Goal 6: Pursue dynamic district-wide community partnerships**

**Actions:**

- a. Research and stay current on various VAPA programs
- b. Implement system for providing students with opportunities to perform at community events (music, theater, instrumental, etc.)
- c. Provide arts field trips and assemblies
- d. Expand the East Whittier Arts Education Foundation (EWAEF) and include all stakeholders
- e. Expand online presence of student work (school, district, arts foundations, ARTSONIA websites)
- f. Showcase district-wide arts

**Goal 7: Create district-wide support and appreciation for VAPA**

**Actions:**

- a. Identify site and community liaisons
- b. Asset-building off site leaders (sharing resource tools and collaboration)
- c. District-wide commitment to VAPA
- d. Advocate and promote VAPA

**Goal 8: Pursue on-going funding and support to sustain VAPA**

**Actions:**

- a. Increase district's VAPA funding

**East Whittier City School District  
Year 1 Arts Education Plan  
2016-2017**

**FOCUS AREA A: Establish teaching and learning content for Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA)**

Goal 1: Implement state VAPA standards and framework					
Year	Actions	Tasks	Person/group responsible	Budget implications	Measurable Outcomes
2016-2017	b. Develop implementation schedule of VAPA TK-8 by identifying key standards	b. Have site leaders identify 3-5 key VAPA standards b. Using key standards develop a year-long schedule for VAPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA TOSA-Patty Dunn</li> <li>Site Leads</li> </ul>	\$25,000- \$40,000- TOSA \$7,000-Site Leads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey data (needs assessments)</li> <li>EWCS D outlined implementation schedule of VAPA</li> <li>Identified and documented key VAPA standards</li> </ul>

**FOCUS AREA B: Develop the infrastructure to support VAPA for all students**

Goal 2: Provide a structure of leadership for VAPA within the district					
Year	Actions	Tasks	Person/group responsible	Budget implications	Measurable Outcomes
2016-2017	a. Establish key responsibilities for VAPA lead/coordinator b. Create a communication plan that involves all stakeholders: VAPA lead, administrators, teachers, school sites, and community c. Utilize district mailing, blackboard (automated caller system) and all social media outlets	a. Establish key responsibilities for VAPA leadership (Patricia Dunn, Arts TOSA) b. Site and community leads to collaboratively create a communication plan (for example: commit to website updates and monthly campaigns) c. Establish protocols for mailings, social media, and blackboard usage c. Develop and utilize a Student Technology Form to obtain permission to upload digital student art work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA TOSA- Patty Dunn</li> <li>Educational Support Systems (ESS)- Assistant Superintendent- Gabriela Tavitian</li> </ul>	\$4,500- Mailings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA lead job description</li> <li>Establish communication plan</li> <li>Filed and documented technology use forms at each site</li> </ul>
Goal 3: Ensure dedicated time for professional development					
Year	Actions	Tasks	Person/group responsible	Budget implications	Measurable Outcomes
2016-2017	a. Determine professional development needs	a. Provide professional development to integrate identified district key VAPA standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA TOSA- Patty Dunn</li> <li>Site Leads</li> </ul>	\$25,000- \$40,000- TOSA \$7,000-Site Leads	

**FOCUS AREA C: Ensure sustainability for arts resources**

**Goal 6: Pursue dynamic district-wide community partnerships**

Year	Actions	Tasks	Person/group responsible	Budget implications	Measurable Outcomes
2016-2017	a. Research and stay current on various VAPA programs	a. Collect research on local VAPA programs - For example: site visits (elementary and middle school)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA TOSA- Patty Dunn</li> <li>Site Leads</li> <li>ESS- Gabriela Tavitian /Alane Calhoun</li> </ul>	\$1,500-substitute time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data on surrounding School Districts VAPA programs</li> </ul>

**Goal 7: Create district-wide support and appreciation for VAPA**

Year	Actions	Tasks	Person/group responsible	Budget implications	Measurable Outcomes
2016-2017	a. Identify site and community liaisons b. Asset building of site leaders (sharing resource tools and collaboration) c. District-wide commitment to VAPA	a. Identify site and community liaisons b. Create schedule of meeting dates (5) for site leaders and liaisons c. Share the “new” vision for VAPA with community liaisons and sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA TOSA- Patty Dunn</li> <li>Site Leads</li> <li>ESS- Gabriela Tavitian /Alane Calhoun</li> <li>Fiscal Department</li> </ul>	No additional cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaison List</li> <li>Schedule of meetings</li> <li>VAPA parent survey (questionnaire)</li> <li>LCAP budget</li> <li>Grant funding</li> </ul>

**Goal 8: Pursue on-going funding and support to sustain VAPA**

Year	Actions	Tasks	Person/group responsible	Budget implications	Measurable Outcomes
2016-2017	a. Increase district’s VAPA funding	a. Establish funds to compensate site leads (after school) a. Outline budget a. Identify costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fiscal Department</li> </ul>	TBD	

**East Whittier City School District  
Year 2-3 Arts Education Plan  
2017-2019**

**FOCUS AREA A: Establish teaching and learning content for Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA)**

Goal 1: Implement state VAPA standards and framework					
Year	Actions	Tasks	Person/group responsible	Budget implications	Measurable Outcomes
2017-2019	a. Provide professional development to integrate VAPA standards  b. Develop implementation schedule of VAPA TK-8 by identifying key standards	a. Implement professional development in concrete disciplines (visual arts, dance, theatre, music) <b>ON -GOING</b>  b. Implement VAPA schedule from year 1 <b>ON-GOING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA TOSA- Patty Dunn</li> <li>Site Leads</li> </ul>	<u>Year 2</u> \$40,000- \$60,000- TOSA  <u>Year 3</u> Full Salary Position  \$7,000-Site Leads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student work which exhibits knowledge of identified distinct key VAPA standards</li> </ul>

**FOCUS AREA B: Develop infrastructure to support VAPA for all students**

Goal 3: Ensure dedicated time for professional development					
Year	Actions	Tasks	Person/group responsible	Budget implications	Measurable Outcomes
2017-2019	b. Schedule on-going professional development  c. Calendar professional leader community and services on Tuesday's (early release day)	b. Continue to attend arts convening across the county (liaisons and leads) <b>ON-GOING</b>  b. Liaisons share and collaborate at site level all learning experiences from outside professional development <b>ON GOING</b>  c. Scheduling outside providers for DLC professional development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA TOSA- Patty Dunn</li> </ul>	TBD	Defined PD calendar and resources, providers



Goal 4: Ensure equitable access to VAPA TK-5					
Year	Actions	Tasks	Person/group responsible	Budget implications	Measurable Outcomes
2017-2019	b. Implement VAPA standards	b. Site liaisons continue to meet to develop lessons aligned to identified district VAPA standards TK-8. <b>ON-GOING</b>  b. Upload VAPA lessons to drop box for continued use, district-wide. <b>ON GOING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA TOSA- Patty Dunn</li> <li>Site Liaisons</li> </ul>	\$7,000-Site Leads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student work from lessons aligned to identified district VAPA standards TK-8</li> </ul>
Goal 5: Ensure equitable course access to VAPA grades 6-8					
Year	Actions	Tasks	Person/group responsible	Budget implications	Measurable Outcomes
2017-2019	b. Refine and expand current VAPA courses	b. Facilitate after school VAPA classes to TK-8 students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA TOSA- Patty Dunn</li> <li>Site Lead</li> <li>Liaisons</li> <li>TCAP</li> </ul>	Grant \$  \$7,000-Site Leads	TK-8 VAPA classes & experiences after school
FOCUS AREA C: Ensure sustainability for arts resources					
Goal 6: Pursue dynamic district-wide community partnerships					
Year	Actions	Tasks	Person/group responsible	Budget implications	Measurable Outcomes
2017-2019	a. Research and stay current on VAPA programs b. Implement system for providing students with opportunities to perform at community events (music, theater, instrumental, etc.) c. Provide arts field trips and assemblies d. Expand the East Whittier Arts Education Foundation (EWAEF) and include all	a. Continue and maintain community partnerships. <b>ON-GOING</b> b. Identify community events and venues to promote VAPA student accomplishments. <b>ON-GOING</b> b. Attend community cultural arts meetings to support goals within the arts plan. <b>ON-GOING</b> b+f. Build partnerships with: Lions Club, Whittier Arts Association, Whittier Historical Society, Rio Hondo College, Whittier College, and Whittier Chamber of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA TOSA- Patty Dunn</li> <li>ESS-Gabriela Tavitian /Alane Calhoun</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student hands on VAPA experiences (6 b +c +f)</li> <li>A website showcasing student art which promotes their achievements while raising funds for the school district and community (6e)</li> <li>Evidence of expanded resources such as new venues, additional funding and continued community</li> </ul>

	<p>stakeholders</p> <p>e. Expand online presence of student work (school, district, arts foundations, ARTSONIA websites)</p> <p>f. Showcase district-wide visual arts</p>	<p>Commerce. <b>ON-GOING</b></p> <p>c. Scheduling field trips and assemblies for VAPA disciplines TK-8. <b>ON GOING</b></p> <p>d. Create more opportunities for stakeholders to serve on the Arts Foundation board. <b>ON-GOING</b></p> <p>e. Liaisons identify and facilitate parents who will take on task of uploading pictures of student work to individual classroom ARTSONIA museum fundraising site (Teachers or room parent volunteer to upload)</p> <p>f. Continue protocols for all district art show. <b>ON-GOING</b></p>			awareness of the arts.
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**Goal 8: Pursue on-going funding and support to sustain VAPA**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Person/group responsible</b>	<b>Budget implications</b>	<b>Measurable Outcomes</b>
2017-2019	a. Increase district's VAPA funding	a. Continue ongoing search and application of VAPA Grants (For example: Arts For All Advancement Grant)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAPA TOSA- Patty Dunn</li> <li>Fiscal Department</li> </ul>		New Grant and other funding opportunities