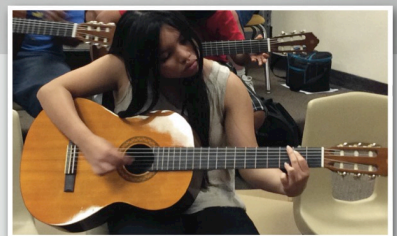


# *Making Hope Happen* through the Arts



A Strategic Plan for the  
Visual and Performing Arts Program

# 10 Lessons the Arts Teach

By Elliot Eisner



- 1 The arts teach children to make **GOOD JUDGMENTS** about qualitative relationships. Unlike much of the curriculum in which correct answers and rules prevail, in the arts, it is judgment rather than rules that prevail.
- 2 The arts teach children that problems can have **MORE** than **ONE** solution and that questions can have more than one answer.
- 3 The arts celebrate multiple **PERSPECTIVES**. One of their large lessons is that there are many ways to **SEE** and **INTERPRET** the world.
- 4 The arts teach children that in complex forms of problem solving purposes are seldom fixed, but change with circumstance and opportunity. Learning in the arts requires the **ABILITY** and a **WILLINGNESS** to surrender to the unanticipated possibilities of the work as it unfolds.
- 5 The arts make **VIVID** the fact that neither words in their literal form nor numbers exhaust what we can **KNOW**. The limits of our language do not define the limits of our **COGNITION**.
- 6 The arts teach students that **SMALL DIFFERENCES** can have **LARGE EFFECTS**. The arts traffic in subtleties.
- 7 The arts teach students to think through and within a material. All art forms employ some means through which **IMAGES** become **REAL**.
- 8 The arts help **CHILDREN LEARN** to say what cannot be said. When children are invited to disclose what a work of art helps them **FEEL**, they must reach into their **POETIC CAPACITIES** to find the words that will do the job.
- 9 The **ARTS ENABLE** us to have **EXPERIENCE** we can have from no other source and through such experience to **DISCOVER** the range and variety of what we are capable of **FEELING**.
- 10 The arts' position in the school curriculum symbolizes to the young what adults **BELIEVE** is **IMPORTANT**.

SOURCE: Eisner, E. (2002). *The Arts and the Creation of Mind*, In Chapter 4, What the Arts Teach and How It Shows. (pp. 70-92). Yale University Press.

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*Making Hope Happen Through The Arts!*

## *Our Vision*



# *Making Hope Happen Through the Arts*

## **Our Mission**

The mission of the SBCUSD Visual and Performing Arts Program is to make arts a priority and ensure that all students experience a world-class program.

This is distinguished by:

- Enriching students' lives by providing opportunities for students to showcase their hard work and creatively express themselves through their arts experience.
- Offering equal access to a quality arts education in all disciplines and in all grades, throughout all schools
- Creating a form of expression, skill development and overall enrichment to encourage lifelong learning
- Fostering self-esteem, community pride and skills, giving students hope and goals to strive for in their career pathway and life
- Inspiring creativity, helping students develop their own passions, strengths, and personal voices, while creating a sense of family and belonging

## **Our Beliefs**

We believe that:

- The Visual and Performing Arts program shall be well funded for facilities, materials and other resources
- All students in grades TK-12 have opportunities to be part of a fine arts program
- The Visual and Performing Arts program offers a diverse program that is inclusive of all arts domains
- Instruction is grounded in real world experiences
- Arts cultivate a unique skill set of creativity, organization, self-confidence, achievement, motivation, and inspiration
- Visual and Performing Arts shall be well recognized, respected and supported by all stakeholders; students, teachers, administrators, parents/guardians, mentors, and the community





## Focus Area 1: Establish a District Wide Commitment to the Arts.

Goal #1: Develop a sequential, standards based Arts program in each discipline for each student.

Description of Goals	Actions	Person(s) Involved	Timeline
<i>Provide access to the Arts for all students TK-12.</i>	Create, develop and implement structures/strategies to increase Arts access in all grades during the instructional day	District VAPA Leadership	Ongoing
		Administration	Yearly
	Conduct articulation meetings with administration, counselors and site staff to improve student placement	Counselors and/or Registrars	
<i>Develop a commitment by students, teachers, and administrators to support the Arts.</i>	Conduct professional development and workshops for teachers, students & administrators on the value of the Arts	District VAPA Leadership	Planning 2015 – 2016
		Student body Leadership	Planning and Implementation Ongoing
<i>Integrate the Arts into the curriculum of other content areas.</i>	Begin study of effective integration methods and develop a timeline for implementation.	District VAPA Leadership	Ongoing
<i>Relate high quality standards based content to career pathways.</i>	Evaluate Arts curriculum for quality and relevance to career pathways	District VAPA Leadership	Ongoing
		Arts Teachers	
		Pathway Leaders	



## Focus Area 1: Establish a District Wide Commitment to the Arts.

Goal #2: Engage parents to make the Arts part of the district culture.

Description of Goals	Actions	Person(s) Involved	Timeline
<i>Develop effective communication systems with parents.</i>	<p>Develop and improve the VAPA section of the District Website, Facebook page and other forms of communication</p> <p>Expand/improve school postings of VAPA events on their webpage and other publications</p>	<p>District VAPA Leadership</p> <p>Administration</p> <p>Arts Teachers</p> <p>Arts Parents</p>	Ongoing
<i>Increase parent involvement.</i>	<p>Examine ways to expand parent involvement in organizations such as Booster Clubs and volunteer groups</p> <p>Examine ways to encourage attendance at events</p>	<p>Administration</p> <p>Arts Teachers</p> <p>Arts Parents</p>	Ongoing
<i>Offer parent workshops on the Arts.</i>	Develop Parent Arts Workshops to share essential information and to develop an appreciation for the Arts	<p>District VAPA Leadership</p> <p>Administration</p> <p>Arts Teachers</p> <p>Arts Parents</p>	Yearly



## Focus Area 1: Establish a District Wide Commitment to the Arts.

Goal #3: Align the budget to fully support the Arts program at the district and site levels.

Description of Goals	Actions	Person (s) Involved	Timeline
<i>Professional Development</i>	Designate funds to conduct yearly Professional Development for all Visual and Performing Arts teachers and their administrators	District VAPA Leadership	Yearly
<i>Arts Facilities</i>	Conduct a yearly needs inventory on facilities requirements and identify possible monetary supports Expand and modernize the existing Music Library	Administration  District VAPA Leadership	Yearly  2015-2017
<i>Instructional Materials and Experiences</i>	Conduct a yearly needs inventory on instructional support materials and experiences to identify possible monetary supports	Administration  District VAPA Leadership	Yearly



## Focus Area 2: Create an Arts-Rich Learning Environment

Goal #1: Provide professional development for all teachers and administrators in the district.

Description of Goals	Actions	Person (s) Involved	Timeline
<i>Expand dedicated professional development time and opportunities which focus on the following:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Career Pathways</li> <li>• Real world experiences</li> </ul> <i>Quality instruction</i>	Offer yearly Arts workshops and training opportunities for all teachers and Administrators	District VAPA Leadership  Administration  Director of College and Career Pathways  Pathway Leaders	Planning 2015 – 2016  Implementation Ongoing

Goal #2: Engage the community in the Arts.

Description of Goals	Actions	Person (s) Involved	Timeline
<i>Enhance and expand Arts showcase opportunities.</i>	Identify ways to enhance and expand existing Arts showcase opportunities	District VAPA Leadership  Administration  Arts Teachers	Yearly
<i>Build partnerships with professionals and organizations.</i>	Identify possible professional partnerships to draw from and determine their role in the Arts program	District VAPA Leadership	Ongoing





## Focus Area 3: Rethink the Use of Time and Resources

Goal #1: Allocate time and resources for equity in the Arts program

Description of Goal	Action	Person(s) Involved	Timeline
<i>Provide TK- 12 students access to the arts during the instructional day</i>	Conduct discussions on how to enrich and expand Arts programs during the school day	District VAPA Leadership Administration Arts Teachers Regular Education Teachers (representatives) Counselors and/or Registrars	Ongoing

Goal #2: Enhance After School Programs

Description of Goal	Action	Person (s) Involved	Timeline
<i>Support existing programs</i>	Examine ways to integrate the Arts into CAPS and other programs	District VAPA Leadership  District CAPS Leadership	Ongoing
<i>Create new opportunities leveraging external resources</i>	Identify possible community partnerships to draw from and determine their role in the Arts program	District VAPA Leadership	Ongoing



### Focus Area 3: Rethink the Use of Time and Resources

Goal #3: Evaluate and improve the placement of Arts students in Career pathways and in meeting A-G requirements.

Description of Goal	Action	Person (s) Involved	Timeline
<i>Connect to District Career Pathways</i>	Meet regularly with key members of secondary education to review and improve the placement process.	Administration Counselors College/Career Pathways Department	Ongoing

Goal #4: Assess the Effectiveness of the Arts Program on a Yearly Basis.

Description of Goal	Action	Person (s) Involved	Timeline
<i>Develop common assessments in all Arts domains</i>	Design and administer assessments that measure existing instructional needs and student proficiencies.	District VAPA Leadership Administration Arts Teachers	Ongoing

