



DID YOU KNOW?

SB Unified to Propose Multi-Million Dollar Plan to Expand Arts and Music Programs

Santa Barbara Unified is preparing a multi-million dollar plan to expand arts and music programs in the District. This process started back in December with the proposal of a five-year Strategic Arts plan.

The two funding sources are:

- Arts, Music and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant-\$7.3 Million
 - One-Time Funds
- Proposition 28 - Arts and Music in Schools Funding- \$1.98 Million
 - Ongoing Funds

Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant

The grant funds from the Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Discretionary are available to obtain standards-aligned professional development and instructional materials. The funds can also be used on professional development, curated diverse and culturally relevant book collections, and operational costs. The one-time funding is available to the District through the 2025-2026 school year.

Proposition 28 - Arts and Music in Schools Funding

The measure approved state-wide by California voters established a new, ongoing program to support arts instruction. At least 80% of the funds must be spent on employing certificated or classified employees to provide arts education instruction.

Planning Process

Below is a timeline and process for spending these funds:

- Create a five-year Strategic Arts Plan- Board of Trustees approved in December
- School leaders developed spending plans and recommendations- Completed
- District Arts Steering Committee reviews submissions, ensuring alignment with the overarching goals and vision set forth in the Five-Year Strategic Arts Plan- Underway
 - Committee includes dedicated teachers from elementary, junior high, and high schools, representing all arts disciplines
- Arts Steering Committee and District leaders to present recommendations to the Board of Trustees- Anticipated at the May 28th Board Meeting
 - More details on the plan will be provided after the Board considers the recommendations

Proposed Projects

The spending being proposed by the committee includes a wide range of expenses, from supplies to after-school and in-class activities. Some of the highlights include:

- After-school enrichment arts and music programs at Cleveland
- A music teacher at La Cuesta/ Alta Vista
- The creation of a new Folklorico Pathway at Santa Barbara Junior High

We look forward to seeing these plans implemented and to expanding Santa Barbara Unified's arts, music, and other creative programs.