

HACIENDA LA PUENTE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S

STRATEGIC ARTS PLAN

2024-2029



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VISION, MISSION & VALUES

VISION

The Hacienda La Puente Unified School District's Visual and Performing Arts Program empowers students to think creatively thereby transforming lives through the arts while developing marketable career skills, preparing students for success in college and enhancing students' overall quality of life for today, tomorrow, and well into their future.

MISSION

It is the mission of the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District's Visual and Performing Arts program to provide an equitable and rigorous arts education program that prepares students for success in college and career, as well as to provide a lifelong foundation of understanding and appreciation for all arts disciplines.

VALUES

Our values guide our work in accomplishing our mission and vision. These values are:

Hacienda La Puente Unified School District's Visual and Performing Arts programs are:

Accessible
Communicated
Comprehensive
Diverse
Equitable
Excellent
Inclusive
Professional
Rigorous
Sustainable



Talented Students

Our hard working students develop their talents from PK-12th grade in all five arts disciplines across our district.

Exceptional Staff

Our team of dedicated certificated and classified arts staff work tirelessly to ensure our students have the skills they need to be successful in college and career.

Rigorous Programs

Our award-winning arts programs are rigorous with high expectations for student performance in the visual, media and performing arts.



GOALS

Our mission includes 6 goals:

- Communication
- Student Access
- Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
- Budget and Facilities
- Professional Learning
- Collaboration and Partnerships

GOAL 1

COMMUNICATION

By the 2026-2027 school year, HLPUSD will strengthen community engagement, promote a clear understanding of the district's arts education programs, and enhance access to arts education through comprehensive communication, data analysis, and professional development initiatives.



**New Programs such as,
Mariachi, Orchestra & Broadway Bound**

ACTION STEPS

Principal's Handbook Creation:

The Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will develop and release a Principal's Handbook by the fall of 2025. This handbook will outline protocols, curriculum, funding, instruction, and other relevant information for the Arts Education Program. The intent is to provide Principals with a comprehensive understanding of the district's arts programs, funding sources, and their role in supporting the mission, vision, and implementation of the arts plan at the school level.

Communicating Arts as Core Education*:

The Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will inform the HLPUSD community—including parents and stakeholders—that the arts are considered core education under state and federal law. This communication will emphasize the importance of arts education as a critical part of the district's curriculum and student development.

Annual Enrollment Report:

Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will create and share an annual report on Visual and Performing Arts enrollment with the Superintendent and/or designees. This report will analyze enrollment trends, identify barriers to student enrollment in arts electives, and track data from TK-12. The analysis will inform efforts to expand student access to arts education and improve enrollment patterns over time.

Substitute Teacher List for Arts Disciplines:

1. Starting in the 2024-2025 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will compile and share a list of qualified substitute teachers with arts backgrounds. This list will be distributed to arts faculty to ensure that substitute teaching needs are effectively met across the district.

Awards and Recognition for Excellence:

1. In the 2024-2025 school year and beyond, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will apply for awards and recognition programs in all arts disciplines. This initiative aims to highlight and celebrate the excellence within HLPUSD's arts programs, fostering pride and providing exemplars for other educators.

Monthly Professional Learning Communities (PLCs):

1. Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will establish monthly PLCs for all arts educator teams. These groups, composed of Arts Lead Teachers from elementary schools and VAPA department chairs from secondary schools, will foster collaboration and ensure ongoing professional development. Facilitators, note-takers, and timekeepers will be assigned for the initial year, ensuring effective and focused meetings.

Arts Integration University Program:

1. In the summer of 2024, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will launch an Arts Integration University summer program for all General and Special Education Teachers in HLPUSD. Participants will receive a toolbox of arts integration techniques, strategies, and resources to apply in their classrooms, supporting cross-curricular connections and student engagement.

Data Analysis of Student Success in Arts Classes:

1. During the 2026-2027 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will analyze grade point averages and attendance data for students enrolled in arts classes at the middle and secondary levels. This data will be compared with students not enrolled in arts electives, including 8th graders and their high school choices. The analysis will be shared with the Superintendent to assess the impact of arts education on academic success and future pathways.

Quarterly Arts Newsletter:

1. Beginning in the fall of 2024, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will produce and distribute a quarterly Visual and Performing Arts Department newsletter as part of the Education Services newsletter. This communication will highlight key initiatives, achievements, and opportunities within the district's arts programs.

Comprehensive Arts Department Webpage:

1. During the summer of 2024, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will collaborate with the Information Technology Department to design and launch an engaging, user-friendly webpage for the Visual and Performing Arts Department on the HLPUSD website. This site will serve as a central hub for information, resources, and updates related to the arts programs across the district.

By executing these action steps, HLPUSD will foster a stronger, more informed community around its arts education programs, ensure increased access and support for all students, and continuously improve the quality of arts education within the district.

***California State Education Code pertaining to Arts Education**

Education Code Section 51210

(a) The adopted course of study for grades 1 to 6, inclusive, shall include instruction, beginning in grade 1 and continuing through grade 6, in the following areas of study ... (e) Visual and performing arts, including instruction in the subjects of dance, music, theatre, and visual arts, aimed at the development of aesthetic appreciation and the skills of creative expression.

Education Code Section 51220

The adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, shall offer courses in the following areas of study:

(g) Visual and performing arts, including dance, music, theatre, and visual arts, with emphasis upon development of aesthetic appreciation and the skills of creative expression.

Every Student Succeeds Act (2015), Reauthorization of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (1965)

- The arts and music are included in a definition of a "well-rounded education" - a term that has replaced the current definition of "core academic subjects," which had included the "arts."
- The subjects listed in the definition of a well-rounded education - including arts and music education - appear to be specified as eligible uses of Title I funds. Title I funds are the largest pool of federal resources dedicated to ensuring equitable access to a complete education for all students.
- The programs supported by the current Arts in Education fund are retained as a newly named "Assistance for Arts Education" fund.
- Arts and music education are specified as eligible uses for new, state-administered "Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants" including support for the arts in STEM education.
- 21st Century Community Learning Center funding is maintained, and arts and music education are specified as eligible for support under "expanded learning time" provisions.

GOAL 2

STUDENT ACCESS

By the 2025-2026 school year, HLPUSD will enhance access to high-quality Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) education at the middle and high school levels, ensuring equitable opportunities for all students to engage in a comprehensive arts curriculum.



ACTION STEPS

Maximize Enrollment in Arts Classes:

1. In the 2024-2025 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will collaborate with Principals and Executive Directors K-12 to optimize student access to arts classes. Best practices for master scheduling will be shared with appropriate personnel to maximize student enrollment in arts classes, ensuring that scheduling barriers are minimized.

Expand Arts Disciplines:

1. During the 2024-2025 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will work with school Principals to identify and recommend additional staffing needs for underrepresented Visual and Performing Arts disciplines (Dance, Media Arts, Music, Theatre, and Visual Arts). The intended expansion of these offerings will be implemented by the 2025-2026 school year, and gaps in course availability will be addressed continually across all school sites.

Ensure Access to Proper Equipment:

1. By the 2024-2025 school year, all students will have access to clean, well-maintained, and functional equipment required for their arts education. This includes costumes, band instruments, audio equipment, and art supplies, ensuring that students can fully participate in and benefit from their arts classes.

Ongoing Progress Monitoring:

1. The Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will implement a system for ongoing progress monitoring throughout the 2024-2025 school year to evaluate the effectiveness of strategies aimed at improving student access to arts education. This system will focus on ensuring that best practices are being followed and that district goals for arts education are being met.

By achieving these goals and action steps, HLPUSD will ensure that all middle and high school students have equitable access to a comprehensive and well-supported Visual and Performing Arts education.



GOAL 3

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & ASSESSMENT

By the 2027-2028 school year, HLPUSD will establish a comprehensive, sequential, and standards-based Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) education system, expanding access to all students and creating pathways for future careers in the Arts Economy.



ACTION STEPS

Sequential Arts Courses:

1. By the 2025-2026 school year, arts courses at HLPUSD middle and high schools will offer a range of sequential classes (e.g., Beginning Art, Advanced Art; Beginning Dance, Advanced Dance) to provide students with opportunities for continued skill development across multiple disciplines.

Career Pathways in the Arts Economy:

2. The Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will collaborate with the Career and Technical Education (CTE) department to assess current course offerings and identify new CTE courses to create school-to-work opportunities in the Arts Economy. These improvements will be implemented by the 2026-2027 school year.

Hiring Additional Arts Teachers:

1. The Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will support principals in creating plans to hire additional arts teachers using Proposition 28 funding. Efforts will focus on ensuring vertical alignment of programs, expanding student access to arts education, especially at the elementary level with itinerant teachers, and building a sequential arts education scope and sequence by 2027.

Adopt District-Wide Curriculum:

1. In the 2025-2026 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will lead a district-wide process to explore the adoption of curriculum for all Visual and Performing Arts disciplines (Dance, Media Arts, Theatre, and Visual Arts). The new curriculum will align with Board Policy, and a timeline for curriculum purchases will be set upon adoption.

Scope and Sequence for Arts Disciplines:

2. During the Summer of 2024, a team of Visual and Performing Arts teachers from elementary, middle, and high schools will develop a comprehensive scope and sequence document for all five Arts Disciplines (Dance, Media Arts, Music, Theatre, and Visual Arts). This work will continue throughout the 2024-2025 school year.

Curriculum Review and Development:

3. In the 2024-2025 school year, Professional Learning Communities will begin evaluating the existing curriculum materials. In fall 2025, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will facilitate the VAPA Curriculum Committee to create Curriculum Guides, Scope and Sequence, and Course of Study documents. The final documents will be established by the 2026-2027 school year.

Establish Mariachi Program:

4. A new Mariachi Program will be launched in the fall of 2024, offered as part of the After-School Program at two middle schools. This initiative will enhance cultural offerings and expand music education opportunities for students.

ACTION STEPS

Orchestra Program Expansion:

1. Starting in the 2024-2025 school year, a new orchestra program will be introduced for all 4th graders in the district. In the 2025-2026 school year, the program will expand to include 5th graders, with an option to continue with strings or switch to Band or Choir. By 2030, a full Grades 4-12 Orchestra Program will be fully established, providing comprehensive musical education.

By achieving these goals and action steps, HLPUSD will create a robust and accessible arts education pathway that nurtures students' creativity, supports career exploration, and enriches the educational experience across all grade levels.

GOAL 4 **BUDGET, FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS**

By the 2026-2027 school year, HLPUSD will build a sustainable and well-resourced Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) program that ensures equitable access to high-quality materials, supplies, facilities, professional development, and resources for students and teachers across all disciplines.



ACTION STEPS

Purchase Materials and Supplies with Prop 28 Funds:

1. By August 2024, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will create sample lists of allowable items for school site personnel to purchase using up to 19% of the Prop 28 budget. This will help ensure equitable distribution and appropriate use of funds for necessary materials and supplies across the arts disciplines.

Create a "Buy Nothing" Group for Teachers:

2. The Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will establish a HLPUSD VAPA department "Buy Nothing" group starting in 2024, allowing teachers to share available resources and request materials they need. This will foster collaboration and resourcefulness among arts educators.

Advocate for a VAPA Department Budget:

3. Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will advocate for the establishment of a dedicated VAPA department budget. This budget will cover musical instrument repairs, sheet music, art supplies, and other necessary items to support arts programs district-wide, beyond the Prop 28 funding.

Musical Instrument Repair/Replacement Program:

4. During the 2024-2025 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will explore the creation of an open Purchase Order system with local repair shops for musical instrument repairs and cleaning using the district's work order system. This will streamline the repair process and enhance instrument maintenance for the district.

Musical Instrument Replacement Plan:

5. Starting in the 2024-2025 school year, a three-year musical instrument replacement plan will be initiated to replace instruments deemed unrepairable, ensuring that all students have access to functional and well-maintained instruments for their education.

Experiential Arts Field Trips and Materials Purchases:

6. Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, 19% of the Prop 28 funding will be allocated to the VAPA department budget to provide experiential arts field trips for TK-8 students and purchase materials and supplies as needed, enhancing the hands-on learning experience for students.

VAPA District Center Planning:

7. The Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will lead the creation of plans for a Visual and Performing Arts District Center, to open by Fall 2026. The center will house a District Sheet Music Library, musical instruments, professional development space, and an HLPUSD Art Gallery to serve as a hub for arts education resources.

Professional Development for Arts Teachers:

8. Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will allocate funds for sending arts teachers to professional development conferences on an annual basis, ensuring continuous improvement in teaching practices and student outcomes.

ACTION STEPS

Extra Hourly Funds for Arts Projects:

1. Starting in the 2024-2025 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will include extra hourly funds in the VAPA department budget to allow teachers to complete projects that support the newly-expanded Arts Education Program.

Upgrades to Arts Classrooms and Venues:

2. During the 2024-2025 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will collaborate with the Facilities and Operations Department to prioritize upgrades to arts classrooms and performance venues. This will include ensuring adequate storage, modernized equipment, and considerations for specialized lighting and working sinks for visual arts classrooms.

Streamline Access to Arts Supplies:

3. Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, the district will explore creating a centralized "store stock" of commonly ordered arts supplies (e.g., valve oil, violin strings, drumsticks, pastel paints, etc.) available at the District Warehouse. This will streamline the procurement process and ensure teachers have quick access to essential materials.

Transportation Budget for Co-Curricular Field Trips:

1. The Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will work with the Business Office to create a structure for providing a Transportation Budget for co-curricular arts education field trips, ensuring that all students can participate in enriching experiences outside the classroom.

Funding for Clerical Support:

2. In the spring of 2024, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will propose the funding of a clerical support position (Administrative Secretary) to assist with the expanding arts education program, ensuring efficient operations for the 2024-2025 school year and beyond.

Musical Instrument Inventory Creation:

3. During the 2024-2025 school year, all instrumental music teachers in HLPUSD will create a thorough inventory of musical instruments assigned to their school sites. This information will be shared with the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator to develop a District Inventory, which will be updated with the creation of an online inventory system in the 2025-2026 school year.

Bid Proposals for Instrument Repair Services:

4. By the 2026-2027 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will work with the Purchasing Director to solicit bid proposals from music repair shops, creating a system-wide process for the cleaning and repair of musical instruments and the annual tuning of pianos.

Piano Accompanist for Choirs:

5. By the 2025-2026 school year, all district choral programs will have a paid piano accompanist funded through Prop 28, ensuring quality support for choral music students.

Through these action steps, HLPUSD will ensure that arts education is fully supported with adequate resources, facilities, and professional development, allowing all students to thrive in a comprehensive, sustainable arts program.

GOAL 5

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

By the 2025-2026 school year, HLPUSD will provide robust, content-specific professional development opportunities for Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) faculty to enhance teaching practices, align with district standards, and support continuous improvement in arts education across the district.



ACTION STEPS

Professional Learning Days for VAPA Faculty:

1. Starting in the 2024-2025 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will propose and implement at least two professional learning days each school year. These days will provide deep, content-specific professional development for VAPA faculty in their respective disciplines. The professional development will be aligned with the district's standards-based Arts Education Program, ensuring that educators are equipped with the knowledge and skills to enhance their teaching and better serve students.

Support for Off-Site Professional Development:

2. At the middle and high school levels, site principals will prioritize using Proposition 28 funding to send Visual and Performing Arts faculty to conferences and off-site professional development opportunities. These conferences may include the California Art Education Association Conference, California All-State Music Education Conference, California Dance Education Association Conference, Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association, and the California Educational Theatre Association State Conference. This funding will help ensure that arts educators have access to the latest best practices and trends in their respective fields.

Collaboration with TOSAs for Elementary Professional Development:

3. The Visual and Performing Arts department will collaborate with district Teachers on Special Assignment (TOSAs) to provide professional learning opportunities during Elementary Professional Learning Community (PLC) collaborative time. This will support elementary arts educators by fostering a community of practice and offering opportunities for skill development in arts education.

By implementing these action steps, HLPUSD will create a culture of continuous professional growth for Visual and Performing Arts faculty, ensuring that teachers have the tools, knowledge, and resources to deliver high-quality arts education to all students.



GOAL 6

COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIPS

By the 2026-2027 school year, HLPUSD will establish a strong network of community arts partnerships and provide grade-level arts field trips and experiences that enhance students' exposure to the arts, support arts education, and foster collaboration between the district and local arts organizations.



ACTION STEPS

Annual Grade-Level Arts Field Trips:

1. The Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will actively seek out and collaborate with community arts partners to advocate for and organize grade-level field trips in the arts for students on an annual basis. For example, all 8th graders in HLPUSD will have the opportunity to attend a theatrical production, such as A Noise Within in Pasadena. Implementation of these field trips will begin as early as the fall of 2024 and will continue annually thereafter, ensuring that all students have access to enriching, hands-on arts experiences.

Establish and Maintain Arts Partnerships:

2. The Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will establish and maintain arts partnerships that provide contracted services for visiting artist residencies, on-site performances, and professional development (PD) for teachers. These partnerships will enhance the arts curriculum, offer diverse learning opportunities for students, and support teacher development in arts education.

Form District and Community Arts Team (TaDa):

3. During the 2024-2025 school year, the Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator will create a District and Community Arts Team (TaDa). This team will consist of community members and Arts Lead Teachers from each elementary school. TaDa's mission will be to share, celebrate, and collaborate on district and community arts programs, promote arts advocacy, and explore ways to strengthen the relationship between HLPUSD and local arts organizations.

Through these action steps, HLPUSD will create a vibrant network of community arts partnerships, provide all students with access to high-quality arts experiences, and foster a culture of collaboration that supports both student learning and arts advocacy.

