


BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TO: BSEP Planning & Oversight Committee
FROM: Suzanne McCulloch, Visual & Performing Arts Program Supervisor, and
Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services
DATE: March 24, 2015
SUBJECT: Recommendation for Expenditure of Funds from the
Arts Programs in 2015-16  for the Visual and Performing

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Berkeley Public Schools Educational Excellence Act of 2006 allocates 6.25% of the available revenues annually to:



Music Program Staffing	\$891,100
------------------------	-----------

Additional Fourth-Fifth Grade Music Teachers 4.44 FTE

Three music teachers are scheduled for the prep period of every two classroom teachers in order to offer a variety of options, including strings, woodwinds, brass, and world music. Several additional music teachers may be assigned for 4th and 5th grades as needed to provide an optimal learning environment and to allow for grade level groupings where there are combination classes. The total number of classes for the 2015-16 school year may need to be altered when school opens based on variances in enrollment. Music class size average 14:1 so that all students receive the instruction and coaching they need to be successful musicians. The BSEP fund bears the entire cost of these additional music teachers.

Middle School (6-8th grade) Music Teachers 2.84 FTE

There are currently 863 middle school students who participate in the music program, requiring multiple before and after school sections in jazz, band, orchestra, chorus and guitar.

Visual and Performing Arts Program Supervisor 1.00 FTE

This position supervises and evaluates 18 music teachers, plans all arts professional development, facilitates all arts partnerships, serves as liaison to Bay Area arts organizations and supports district arts teachers and programs. The Supervisor supports the four arts curricula and assessments as well as Standards and Common Core alignment. This person is the budget manager for all aspects of the VAPA portion in the BSEP measure, as well as for independent contracts and outside grants.

Music Librarian 1.00 FTE

The Music Librarian keeps an ongoing database (library information software) of all instruments and sheet music. The librarian works with the music teachers to ensure that they have the materials and supplies they need for their students. This person arranges for repairs, tracks purch

Teacher Hourly for Performing Arts Rehearsals - \$5,000

In order to properly staff and supervise 800 students rehearsing and performing in the annual Performing Arts Showcase, teachers are paid hourly for their weekend work

school" and student displays throughout the school express the "student as artist" vision. A new focus will be on arts integration with the Common Core.

Instruments and VAPA Instructional Materials	\$115,400
--	-----------

Instruments- \$72,000

The music program provides musical instruments to all fourth to eighth grade music students. Berkeley is one of the few California school districts that loans instruments so that students of all financial levels have equal access to the program. In addition, students are supplied with music method books and workbooks, recorders, reeds, strings, all instrument accessories and sheet music, and classrooms are outfitted with music stands, music carts and music storage units. Instruments are repaired as

addition, guest conductors work with the ensembles in clinics. The registration fees are covered and teachers raise funds for the buses to transport students.

Performances and Exhibitions	\$2,400
------------------------------	---------

BUSD participates in _____ each year with a variety of special events. The VAPA Department presents the Performing Arts Showcase, an afternoon of music performed by grades 5-12 at the Berkeley Community Theater. In March of 2015 over 850 students participated in Chorus, Orchestra, Band and Jazz ensembles by grade level. This was a 32% increase (250 students since 2012) An enthusiastic audience of over 1,500 cheered the student musicians.

In February 2015, three busloads of Berkeley High School performing arts students traveled to the three middle schools, to present a 50 minute sampler of the dance, drama, vocal and instrumental music opportunities at Berkeley High School to the eighth grade students, who would soon be registering for their ninth grade classes at BHS. Experiencing the many options available for participation in the arts at BHS supports students in their transition from middle school to high school. VAPA monies support the custodians for Performing Arts Showcase and the Arts Bus costs. In February and March 2015, the Berkeley Art Center hosted the bi-annual K-8 Visual Art exhibit. There was no charge to the district and the show was widely attended by students and parents.

Collaborative Partnerships	\$10,400
----------------------------	----------

This VAPA budget includes \$10,000 to support the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra program at the eleven K-5 schools and \$400 to support Cal Performances in the classroom workshops. BUSD is fortunate to have the support of strong local arts organizations with ongoing partnerships to provide opportunities for our students. In 2015-16 BUSD elementary schools will continue to take part in the educational program conducted by the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra (BSO), which involves the Symphony visiting the schools in the fall to present a _____ concert, BSO musicians visiting K-5 classrooms, and _____ concerts at many schools in February.

Teachers will be able to attend workshops and have guest artists visit their classes in conjunction with "School Time Performances" at Cal Performances. \$400 funds custodial time for the Saturday workshops. Teacher hourly and substitute compensation for these activities are included in the Staffing total.

Enrollment in middle school music classes has also increased dramatically over the years, as many more students now have the advantage of public music education in the elementary schools and are ready and eager to take advantage of the middle school