

MUSIC, VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

BSEP Measure E1, Resource 0753

BSEP Measure A, Resource 0853

ANNUAL REPORT: FY 2018-19 PROGRAM UPDATE: FY 2019-20

Measure E1 Purpose:

Providing quality instructional programs in music and the visual and performing arts for elementary and middle school students. Available Revenues may be used for, but are not restricted to, providing qualified teachers and staff, and professional development in the arts for elementary and secondary students. Musical instruments, instructional materials, equipment and necessary services may be provided for any K-12 school, as long as funds permit.¹

**Budget Managers: Pete Gidlund, VAPA Program Supervisor
Pasquale Scuderi, Associate Superintendent for Educational Services**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Fourth and fifth grade students receive music instruction twice per week during two of the four periods that are contractually required for classroom teacher preparation (aka “release time”) at those grade levels. (The other two teacher preparation periods are filled with classroom instruction in science, art, or dance, with release time teachers paid for from the General Fund.)

Half of the cost of music release time teachers is funded by BSEP and half is funded by the General Fund. BSEP also provides supplemental music teachers for fourth and fifth grades in order to provide smaller classes and expand options for students at each music period, including brass, woodwind, and string classes. Students in fourth and fifth grade are scheduled into music classes of 12-18 students according to choice of instrument. Providing smaller classes to focus on one or two instruments ensures all students will successfully meet grade level music standards. Without these supplemental teachers, classes would be at 24-26 students with fewer instruments taught in the same class. These supplemental teachers are paid for entirely by this BSEP resource. Instruments, instrument repairs, and materials are also funded by BSEP.

Beyond the fourth and fifth grades, this resource provides funding for music, and visual and performing arts instruction at the Middle Schools, as well as a Program Supervisor, a Visual and Performing Arts Technician, professional development, and a number of events and activities related to the music and visual and performing arts programs from fourth through eighth grades.

2018-19 MUSIC/VAPA FUND – REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

Release Time Teachers: Transfer to General Fund

Budget: (\$244,500)

Actual: (\$239,002)

Variance: \$5,498

¹ BSEP Measure E1, Section 3.B.ii

Measure A Funds

Measure A carryover funds were approved and spent in 2018-19 as part of a “deferred maintenance initiative” with a purpose to replenish the district’s “large fleet” instruments such as double bass, large brass, pianos, etc. Expenditures for the year totaled \$63,642, leaving an ending fund balance of \$441,916. In 2019-20, the “deferred maintenance initiative” continues with a plan to expend \$200,000 from this Resource.

STATUS REPORT

The foundation for Music, and Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) in BUSD elementary and middle schools is provided through this BSEP funding. Following is an overview of the program currently funded through BSEP:

Core Music and VAPA Programs:

- Staffing and materials for the grades 4-8 Music Program, including music classes for all fourth and fifth graders;
- Staffing support for afterschool arts classes at the middle schools;
- Drama materials for grades 6-8;
- Support for the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra Music in the Schools Program (MITS) at eleven elementary schools;
- Professional development for classroom teachers in arts integration at ten elementary schools (Arts Anchor Allocations);
- Professional development for music teachers; year five of Mills Scholars inquiry work;
- Staffing support for outreach programs and partnerships such as Arts on The Run, Berkeley Arts Education Steering Committee (BAESC), Cazadero Music Camp, The Music Connection (TMC), the Performing Arts Showcase, and Schools Fund grants for things like arts provider residencies and music lesson scholarships for students in need.
- Staffing support for partnerships with community arts organizations such as Cal Performances, Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA), Berkeley Repertory Theatre, MOCHA, Freight & Salvage, KALA, The Kennedy Center (DC), and the Alonzo King LINES Ballet.

Highlights of the Music and VAPA program from 2018-19 include:

- All fourth and fifth graders participated in the music program, regardless of ability to pay for instruments.
- Due to strategic hiring and scheduling, we continue to offer a wider selection of instruments, including ukulele, guitar, drumline, mariachi, and African drumming, while maintaining similar FTE.
- All students were provided with a well-functioning instrument of their choosing, grade level method books, supplemental sheet music, and necessary accessories such as strings, valve oil and cork grease.

- Music teachers continued “in house” cultural responsiveness training. As well, our teacher-leader run MILLS/PLC inquiry work focused on equity.
- About 400 students played the National Anthem at an A’s game in April, with a smaller group of 150 playing the National Anthem at a Cal Baseball game in April. Also in May of 2018 the combined middle school choruses sang the national anthem at a separate A’s game.
- Collaborative partnerships provided workshops, tutoring, and performances by professional musicians for Berkeley students K-12.
- The middle school jazz bands played at Freight & Salvage and Yoshi’s.
- Many middle school students played and/or sang in multiple ensembles.
- The winter and spring concerts were very well-attended, especially at the middle schools, where the students played to packed houses. Nearly 2,000 family and community members attended the Performing Arts Showcase in March, 2019.
- VAPA maintained its successful new Kennedy Center “Partners in Education” partnership with the Alonzo King LINES Ballet, who is offering in-class dance integration training and out-of-class professional development for BUSD teachers. This partnership also continues to qualify VAPA to receive support from the Kennedy Center.
- Brand new After School arts funding- our Arts Anchor Extension Pilot provided the following resources to provide equitable arts opportunities for our students:

0.6 FTE funding Middle School Arts electives:

- King- Ceramics
- Willard- Drama
- Longfellow- Digital Arts

\$8,000 funded after school Arts at each of :

- John Muir - Museum of Children’s Art (MoCHA)
- Washington - Drama, Drums, Dance
- Sylvia Mendez - Drumming

Program Update FY 2019-20

As the VAPA department continues to make equity its first priority, we continue to hire teachers that have a background/training in culturally responsive teaching as well as diverse musicological backgrounds. Our staff is continually becoming more diverse as well.

In Spring 2019 a group called the Music Diversity Committee formed and is still active and vibrant. The group is made up of parents, students, music teachers, and VAPA supervisor, with a primary goal of supporting families of color in a way that provides information on and access to BUSD VAPA’s music program.