



Music / VAPA



Annual Report FY 2019-20

Pete Gidlund, Program Supervisor

Music/VAPA: Purpose and Mission

BSEP Measure E1 Purpose:

“providing quality instructional programs in music and the visual and performing arts for elementary and middle school students...”

BUSD Music/VAPA Mission:

Providing equitable access to a quality music education for all students.



Program Summary

[Link to a helpful overview of VAPA/Music program...](#)

Staff

- 19 Full-time Fully-credentialed music teachers
- 1 VAPA Technician
- 1 Family Engagement & Equity Specialist (SY21)
- 1 VAPA Supervisor

Contracts and Expenses

- Instruments
- Repairs
- Contractors and Partnerships
- Arts Anchor / Arts Anchor Extension
- Theater budget 6-12

Core Annual Activities

- 4th-8th grade Music Program
 - Staff TK-3 and 9-12 music
- Arts on the Run
- Performing Arts Showcase
- Many Concerts/trips
- Camp Cazadero
- BHS and Middle School Jazz play Yoshi's

Annual Report Highlights

July 2019 - March 2020

Special Projects:

- Preparing move-out and demolition of BHS Arts building.
- Planning for Berkeley Symphony / BHS Jazz.

Spring 2020

Special Projects and Issues:

- Cancellation of Performing Arts Showcase
- Cancellation of Symphony
- Cancellation of Student concerts
- Classes move to online
- Distribution of Instruments
- “Virtual Concerts” created
- Master Planning/Scheduling for Distance Learning

First Interim Update

2020-2021 Highlights:

- Whole music program up and running on the first day of school.
- Rolling out a number of new equity initiatives (in addition to our ongoing [VAPA Equity Plan](#))

Some Measurable Outcomes:

- *Higher than expected student participation*
- *100% of classes up and running*

2021-22 Planning Concerns:

- *Will we have an overall drop in participation when in-person learning returns?*
- *Will next year's 5th and 6th graders be behind as a result of 1 class per week?*

Some Equity concerns:

- *We are seeing a drop in participation from students of color in our elementary program (normally serve 100%).*

New Equity Initiatives Rolling out 2020-21

DIVERSE HIRING/RECRUITING *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.*

PARENT EQUITY GROUP *In Spring 2019 a group called Berkeley Music Inclusion and Equity (BMIE) formed and has become more active and vibrant since March. 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.*

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT AND EQUITY SPECILIST *We have hired a VAPA Equity Specialist, Janeare Whittington, whose job is analogous to that of the OFEE staff, but will meet specific needs of the Music Department and report to VAPA Supervisor. Liaison to students/families of color; assist with communication, provide support and training for staff.*

EXPANDING SECONDARY BUDGET *New budget items come into effect this year that address specific equity issues: An arts budget for BHS African American Studies (field trips/supplies), building reserve for future digital music lab at BHS, expanded drama materials budget gr. 6-12.*

CULTURAL COMPETENCY PD *Professional Development for music teachers deepens this year as many new books are released for the first time that directly address equity/social justice issues in the music classroom. Book groups start semester 2 in weekly staff meetings.*