



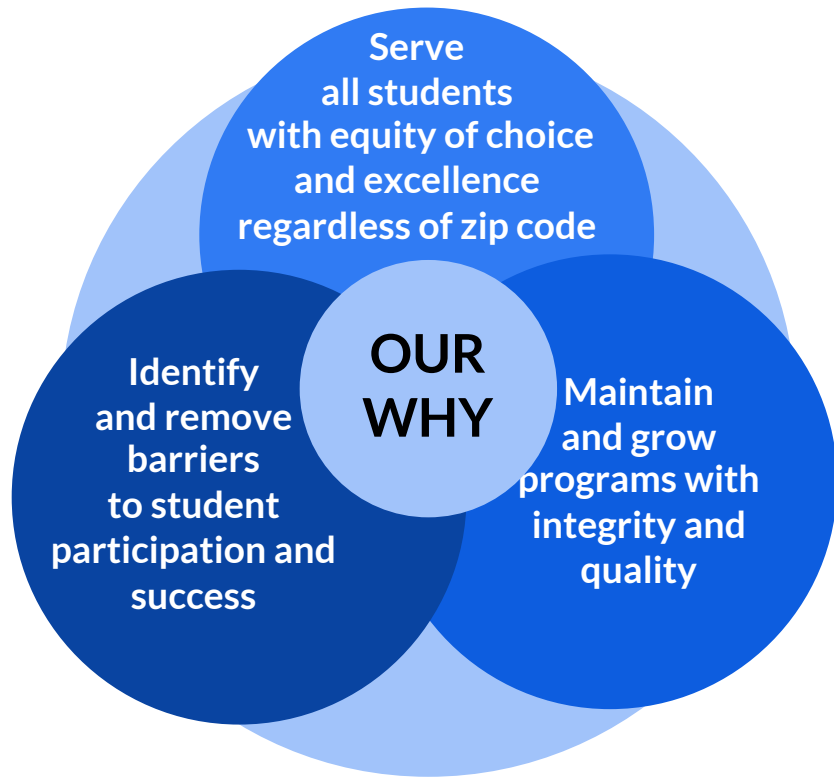
March 29th Presentation

Visual & Performing Arts



Alan Lambert, Director of Visual and Performing Arts

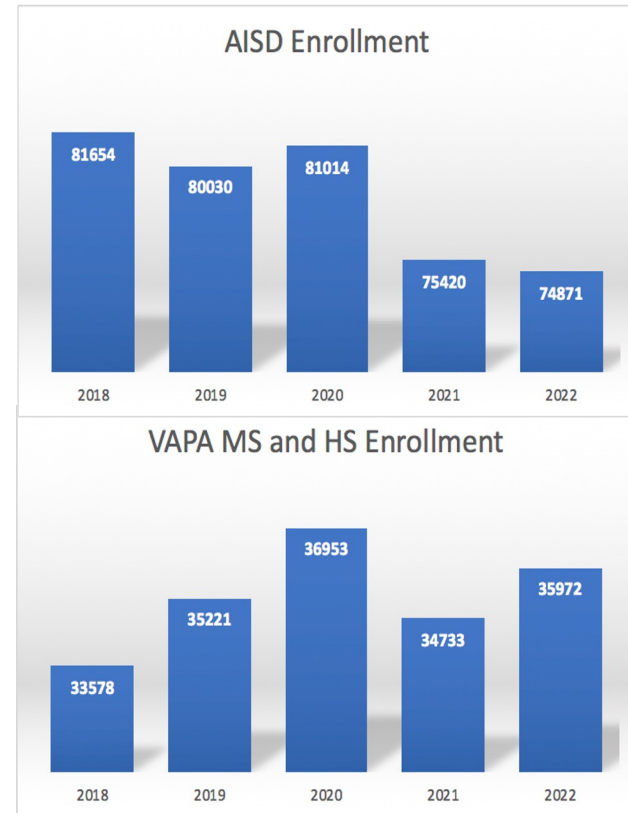
Visual & Performing Arts Department Vision (VAPA)



State of Visual & Performing Arts

Strengths

- 500 VAPA teachers
- All elementary students attend art and music classes
- 36,000 secondary students enrolled in VAPA courses
- Secondary core programs:
 - Art
 - Band
 - Choir
 - Dance
 - Guitar
 - Orchestra
 - Theatre
- State level honors and recognition for students and staff
- Teacher leadership in district events and outside organizations
- Expanded free summer programs for students
- Increased UIL participation
- Direct campus support
- Robust community partnerships



State of Visual & Performing Arts, cont.

Areas of Improvement or Concern

- Condition of instruments and equipment (\$.5M annual repair cost)
 - 50% of instruments are in “poor” or “unrepairable” condition
 - Sound and lighting equipment in need of repair or replacement
 - Unsafe conditions of risers and band towers
- Inadequate budget and staff (\$.5M annual capital outlay budget)
- Need for modernized and content-appropriate facilities
- Use of portables as VAPA classrooms
- Financial barriers to student participation and success
- New sixth grade elementary additions, including band and orchestra at each campus
- Recruitment and retention of quality teachers
- Relevant, accessible, and quality professional development for teachers
- Transportation and logistics

State of Visual & Performing Arts, cont.

Department Updates

- ESSER funding: Needs assessments and purchase of 400+ guitars, 200+ violins, 145+ violas, 55+ cellos and basses, 10 lighting consoles (auditoriums), 10 sound consoles (auditoriums), 50+ ballet barres, 20+ portable dance mirrors, various band instruments, choral risers, sound shells, etc.
- ESSER funding: expansion of free summer programs in art, music, dance, and theatre
- Private lesson pilot program for students in need at Eastside, Webb, Martin, and Navarro
- Lights, sound equipment, and costumes on loan to campuses for VAPA productions
- New working scene shop and costume shop for student and teacher learning beyond the classroom
- Strategic planning: engaging the student voice
- Essential areas (music, art, and physical education) incorporating elementary dance curriculum

AISD Equity Framework and Visual & Performing Arts Priorities

Educational equity means that each child receives what they need to develop to their full academic and social potential.

National Equity Project Definition	AISD VAPA Priority
Discovering and cultivating the unique gifts, talents, and interests of every student	● Access and quality for every student, regardless of zip code
Ensuring equally high outcomes for all	● Teacher recruitment, retention, development, and support
Interrupting [Disrupting] inequitable practices	● Equity of choice for every student ● Cost is not a barrier to participation and success ● Appropriate staffing and funding

Visual & Performing Arts Program Inequities

Students on these campuses lack access to one or more core programs:

Choir, Dance, Guitar, Orchestra, Theatre

Mendez MS (*96.7%)

Martin MS (*95.8%)

Webb MS (*95.6%)

Sadler-Means YWLA (*93.3%)

Garcia YMLA (*91%)

Northeast ECHS (*90.3%)

Travis ECHS(*81.5%)

LBJ ECHS(*73.9%)

**Economically Disadvantaged*



7 Conditions for Student Success

We operate with the understanding that equitable systems of education strive to create the following conditions in order to promote student success:

1. Culturally proficient, experienced teachers and staff
2. Recognition and cultivation of gifts, talents, and interests
3. High expectations and support to meet those high expectations
4. Positive relationships with teachers and peers
5. A sense of belonging, empowerment, connection, and identity safety
6. Rigorous, relevant, and inclusive curriculum centering their language, racial, and cultural identities
7. Well-maintained facilities that support state of the art instruction and support cultural identities and safety

Priorities for Visual & Performing Arts



AISD Pride Parade Band Performance

- Minimize access and opportunity gaps for our most marginalized students, teachers, campuses, and programs.
- Expand VAPA needs-assessments, goals, and standards for evaluating programs in order to increase the quality of each VAPA classroom, co-curricular program, and extra-curricular event.
- Collaborate deeper with UIL, VASE, and other partners to host more student events and opportunities at district facilities and throughout the community.

Minimize access and opportunity gaps for our most marginalized students, teachers, campuses, and programs.

Rationale:

- Every student deserves equity of choice to participate in high quality programs led by expert teachers.
- Lack of adequate facilities, instruments, and equipment are barriers to student success.
- Cost of participation, including instruments and other supplies, can be a barrier for many AISD families.

Potential Solutions:

- Identify and eliminate barriers preventing participation of our most marginalized students.
- Craft choice sheets to include all VAPA course offerings for each grade at every school.
- Recruit, develop, and retain high quality teachers to ensure program quality.
- Utilize bond funds to update aged instruments and equipment annually.
- Expand funding for new purchases to allow for program growth and expansion.
- Provide enhanced transportation where this barrier exists.

Minimize access and opportunity gaps for our most marginalized students, teachers, campuses, and programs.

Which of the 7 Conditions for Student Success does this support?

- Culturally proficient, experienced teachers and staff
- Recognition and cultivation of gifts, talents, and interests
- High expectations and support to meet those high expectations
- Positive relationships with teachers and peers
- A sense of belonging, empowerment, connection, and identity safety
- Rigorous, relevant, and inclusive curriculum centering their language, racial, and cultural identities
- Well-maintained facilities that support state of the art instruction and support cultural identities and safety

Which problem statement does this address?

- In order to meet the needs of all students and families and provide an empathetic, strengths-based, and culturally-sensitive environment across all programs and campuses, we must have adequate numbers of well-trained staff and administration.
- All students need expanded VAPA programming, applied consistently throughout the district, to fuel student interest through VAPA experiences and/other academic pursuits.
- Students of PK-12 families who require or desire after-school programs should have access to safe, quality, affordable programs, such as sports, fine arts programs, tutoring, etc.

Which additional committees does this impact?



Expand VAPA needs-assessments, goals, and standards for evaluating programs in order to increase the quality of each VAPA classroom, co-curricular program, and extra-curricular event.

Rationale:

- Students and teachers need consistent measures for high quality programs.
- Classroom and performance/display facilities are lacking modernization and are not equitably accessible across the district for all students.
- Student choice and teacher expertise should drive participation in the 7 core VAPA courses and beyond.

Potential Solutions:

- Clarify expectations and metrics for what constitutes emerging, intermediate, and advanced programs.
- Ensure classrooms and performance/display facilities are modernized and standardized.
- Craft choice sheets to include all VAPA course offerings for each grade at every school.
- Leverage arts and community partners to expand program offerings beyond the school day.

Expand VAPA needs-assessments, goals, and standards for evaluating programs in order to increase the quality of each VAPA classroom, co-curricular program, and extra-curricular event.

Which of the 7 Conditions for Student Success does this support?

- Culturally proficient, experienced teachers and staff
- Recognition and cultivation of gifts, talents, and interests
- High expectations and support to meet those high expectations
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Which problem statement does this address?

- All students need expanded VAPA programming, applied consistently throughout the district, to fuel student interest through VAPA experiences and/other academic pursuits.
- The district must establish VAPA staffing minimums in AISD's staffing formula, separate from general staffing formula, a VAPA department structure that has the capacity to offer the full range of VAPA programs to all students at every campus, and professional development specific for VAPA educators.

Which additional committees does this impact?



Collaborate with UIL, VASE, and other partners to host more student events and opportunities at district facilities and throughout the community.

Rationale:

- Campus and district performance/display facilities need to provide adequate access, space, technology, and functionality.
- Significant transportation fees are incurred annually to transport students within and outside of Austin for participation in regular events as well as UIL, VASE and other competitions.
- Teachers and students need training and opportunities for behind-the-scenes production at both campus and district facilities.

Potential Solutions:

- Prioritize student events at district performance facilities.
- Provide transportation as needed within and outside of Austin.
- Ensure district performance facilities are modernized and well-maintained.
- Create internships and training opportunities for teachers and students.
- Standardize and modernize technical equipment across the district.

Collaborate deeper with UIL, VASE, and other partners to host more student events and opportunities at district facilities and throughout the community.

Which of the 7 Conditions for Student Success does this support?

- Culturally proficient, experienced teachers and staff
- Recognition and cultivation of gifts, talents, and interests
- High expectations and support to meet those high expectations
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Which problem statement does this address?

- All students need expanded VAPA programming, applied consistently throughout the district, to fuel student interest through VAPA experiences and/other academic pursuits.
- Students of PK-12 families who require or desire after-school programs should have access to safe, quality, affordable programs, such as sports, fine arts programs, tutoring, etc.

Which additional committees does this impact?



Question and Answer Session

Next Steps

Post-meeting Survey Link: <https://bit.ly/3q7Oruo>

Future Meetings

Committee Meetings

- Tuesday, April 19 (6:00 pm - 8:30 pm)
- Saturday, April 30 (9:00 am - 12:30 pm)
- Tuesday, May 10 (6:00 pm - 8:30 pm)
- June date TBD

Resources

- [Comprehensive resource list](#)