

**Berkeley Arts Education Steering Committee (BCT committee)
Meeting Notes
September 18, 2017 4-5:30pm**

Present:

Ariel Feinberg, Berkeley Art Studio, UCB
Michael Taddei, Crowden Music Center
Mariah Castle, Malcolm X Elementary School
Carol Lashof, Those Women Productions
Valerie Gutwith, BUSD Dance
Linnae Schroeder, CalCREATE, UCB
Peter Gidlund, BUSD VAPA
Nancy Ng, Luna Dance Institute, BCT BAESC committee chair

Introductions and Hx

Participants introduced themselves. Nancy and Pete shared brief Hx of BAESC – began about 20 years ago as a committee out of BCT; over the years various community members (parents, teachers, artists, arts providers) have been involved; various surveys and assessment of arts education in BUSD have been conducted; various efforts for an arts education strategic plan and arts standards for the district; most recently over past two years with the involvement of Principal’s Leadership Institute (PLI)/BKCAC/BUSD assessment of after-school in BUSD – after school programming inequities identified. Last year, also worked on dance in BUSD, and 1 FTE allocated for a middle school dance position. For many years BAESC worked independent of BCT. In spring 2017 after consultation with current BAESC members, BCT steering committee members, and BK CAC it was decided to have BAESC as a committee of BCT to support advocacy efforts for arts education in the city of BK and BUSD.

BUSD Visual and Performing Arts Report – Peter Gidlund

Brief summary of BUSD VAPA – mandatory school-day music grades 3-5. Release time for 3rd grade classroom teachers; 4th and 5th instrumental music; music in 6-8. 18 art teacher FTE. BSEP measure written up to 8th grade. In his role as VAPA manager, Pete deals with facilities, arts issues, high school evaluations, supervises full-time arts teachers; hub for arts partnerships including Kennedy Center dance appreciation program with Lines Ballet. Each school receives \$7K for arts integration. Malcolm X only school with VAPA coordinator. No funding for arts coordinators at school sites. Pete shared that district was informed by state dept. of education to expect large budget cuts. It was suggested that school sites share a family engagement coordinator, and perhaps that person could also play an arts coordinator role.

Credentialed dance teachers at some K-5 schools. Pete shared outcome of opening a dance teacher position in BUSD. Due to slim applicant pool this position was not filled. However, the new middle school physical education teacher at Longfellow, who is a dance teacher, was hired to fill a PE position, and she will be offering more robust dance classes as part of the PE curriculum.

Berkeley Arts and Culture Plan

BK Arts and Culture plan In process - and in final stages. Arts education is a part of this.

Goals and Actions from June 2017 BAESC Mtg

At last BAESC meeting these items were suggested as possible items to work on for AY 2017-18:

- Continuing with the after-school work of the BKCAC through the UCB Chancellor's grant
- Advocacy Actions
 - arts coordinator for each school site
 - meeting with board of education members
 - develop an arts education strategic plan w/ support of outside resources
- Assessment: up-to-date arts report card every school; can use old survey monkey, data Valerie conducted about dance education, data collected by BK CAC regarding after-school
- Conduct educational workshops for community, topics can include:
 - resources coming into the district and where they are going and identification of models that are currently working in BUSD
 - presentation at BCT meeting to bring more folks to the arts education table (perhaps Pete good speak at a general BCT meeting?)
 - how to start an arts education branch for your organization?
 - Road map to arts education funding
 - Successes in other communities: for example - after-school program model in San Diego that resulted in

Participants at this BAESC meeting discussed and chose what they were interested in working on for this year. Continuing with the work of the BKCAC and the PLI started with the Chancellor's grant was identified as a project to work on. BAESC members hope to use this information to identify arts groups that could work with the BEARS and LEARNS after-school programs. Aaron and Angela, the after-school program directors will be invited to attend a BAESC meeting to begin this conversation.

Note: Following this BAESC meeting, PLI emailed a draft version of their report to BAESC chair Nancy Ng. Once, this report is approved by the BK CAC arts education committee it will be shared with BAESC members.

Some BAESC members also expressed interest in an arts education strategic plan. Nancy mentioned there might be resources from an outside consultant to do this work. She will look into this and report out at next BAESC meeting. Nancy will ask BCT steering committee to have Pete speak about BUSD arts education at a future BCT general meeting.

Next Meeting: Monday, 11/20/17, 4-5:50 BUSD Office, Addison and Browning

If another date is better to meet with Angela and Aaron this date will be announced to BAESC members.