

Report to the MVWSD Board of Trustees

Update on Proposition 28 Arts and Music Programs

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Annual Financial Report for Prop 28

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Background:

In November 2022, California voters approved Proposition 28, the Arts and Music in Schools Funding Guarantee and Accountability Act (Prop 28), which sets aside annual state funding to supplement arts programs in public schools. Annual apportionments are allocated on a per school site basis and calculated based on general enrollment and Free and Reduced Lunch Program enrollment.

Apportionment Details:

- MVWSD sites are being allocated approximately \$600K total per year. Annual apportionments can be expended over a three year period.
- Funds must supplement, not supplant existing arts programs in the baseline year (the year before Prop 28 funds are first utilized).
- The first allocation (23-24) will expire at the end of the 25-26 academic year. The second allocation (24-25) will expire at the end of the 26-27 academic year. Similar to other state funds, the final allocation per academic year is sent to school districts in the middle of each academic year.
- Due to the gradual rollout of detailed rules for how the funds can be spent, MVWSD made the strategic decision to delay the planning process until Winter 2024.
- At least 80% of Prop 28 funds must be spent on the hire of certificated and classified instructors for the arts. Up to 20% can be spent on materials, training, contracts, etc.
- The state allows districts to apply for a waiver to allow non-staffing expenditures to exceed 20% of the total apportionment under certain conditions.
- There is no penalty for not spending all of the annual apportionment within three years - unspent funds would be returned to the state and redistributed.
- MVWSD's Annual Financial Report for Prop 28 is linked below and attached.

What types of programs can be funded?

- According the official CDE FAQ: Arts education programs that provide (but is not limited to) instruction and training, supplies, materials, arts educational partnership programs for instruction in dance, media arts, music, theater, and visual arts including folk art, painting, sculpture, photography, craft arts, creative expression including graphic arts and design, computer coding, animation, music composition, ensembles, script writing, costume design, film, and video.
- Programs may take place during the school day or after school.

How does this impact existing elementary art and music funding?

- MVWSD already has a robust art and music program for all students. In elementary schools, arts and music classes are provided by the Community School of Arts and Music (CSMA) with funding from the

Mountain View Educational Foundation (MVEF). We also directly employ multiple full-time art and music teachers for the middle schools.

- Prop 28 funds must be used for *additional* programs and cannot be used to pay for existing ones. This has slightly complicated MVEF's donation messaging due to donor questions. If Prop 28 funds were used instead of MVEF funds for our CSMA programs, this would be an audit finding, and the district would be asked to return that money.

How did we determine how we would like to spend the funds?

- According to state and county guidance, "School administrators, in collaboration with teachers, families, and students, should together make the decision on what programs to fund."
- In Winter 2024-25, students, staff, and community members submitted their input via surveys. Principals also facilitated discussions at various school-based meetings. District staff also facilitated many working conversations with principals about apportionment details, regulations, and site needs and desires related to arts programming.
- Based on community input and the individual contexts of their schools, all principals completed individual School Site Expenditure Plans (SSEP), which outlined planned expenditures for the 2025-26 school year. District staff reviewed, gave feedback on, and eventually approved each SSEP. Statute does not require these plans to be board-approved nor submitted to CDE.

School Site Expenditure Plans - a summary

- Most school sites chose to use Prop 28 funds for after school programs because the daytime schedules are already very full.
- At the time of writing, staff are in the midst of the hiring process for new part-time teachers to begin working in 25-26.
- Landels plans to hire a single part-time after school arts teacher to run its own programs.
- Bubb plans to hire up to two choir teachers for after school music programs.
- The other seven elementary schools are pooling funds to hire a group of after school arts teachers who will rotate through the sites over the course of the year. In 25-26 the district will help to establish the program and coordinate details. The participating schools will take on the administrative responsibilities in 2026 and beyond.
- Crittenden plans to hire after school animation and dance teachers.
- Graham plans to hire music coaches for music classes during the regular school day.

Considerations

- Coordinating after school arts programs for seven elementary schools and the existing ELOP after school programs/providers will be significantly more complex than the work done to this point: new employees will need training and supervision that cannot easily be done by principals.
- Day to day support and supervision of a multi-site after school program will be a collaborative effort between existing district staff and site administrators for now.
- Prop 28 rules only allow a maximum of 1% to be spent on administration, including indirect funds. However, a coordinator role may become necessary in the future due to the complexity of after-school programming.

Next steps

- Continue with hiring qualified arts teachers until all positions are filled.
- Establish specific expectations and processes for Prop 28 programs and staff.

- Train new staff, then continuously monitor and assess their performance.
- Keep track of Prop 28 expenditures.
- In case we are unable to hire enough additional arts staff by October 2025, the district will submit a waiver to allow us to spend the remaining funds on non-staff expenditures (supplies, contracted services, etc.)
- Present our progress to the board in Winter 2025-26.

Summary:

Prop 28 AMS is a unique opportunity to increase students' access to arts education across our district and state. Creating sustainable plans that meet our schools' needs and the state requirements will require careful planning and detailed execution. The hiring of new staff and creation of new programs will intersect with almost all other aspects of district programs and undoubtedly there will be many logistical challenges to solve. In the long run, however, these new funds can make a significant impact on the creative lives of not just students, but teachers and families as well.

Annual Financial Report:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aMutmfPDzv0zJVwWfkJb70xqyOdc-HVl/view?usp=drive_link