February 2, 2016

Board of Education Committee of the Whole
Tonight’s Objectives

1. Update Board on how the project has evolved
2. Gather input and direction from the Board
3. Confirm next steps
Background

May 2015 Board meeting
• Staff presented potential options/components for consideration along with different scenarios, associated costs, and preliminary thinking about potential funding sources

Since May 2015
• Aligned multiple streams (SFUSD ArtsCenter, Asawa SOTA Admissions policies, AEMP kickoff)
• Dove deeply to pressure-test concepts presented at May 2015 CoW
• Convened high-level task force internally
• Explored critical path toward funding
Our Framing

WAS: Solution looking for a problem
IS: An arts education initiative aligned w/ Vision 2025 and refreshed AEMP

WAS: “The SOTA Move”
IS: SFUSD ArtsCenter

WAS: Led by Facilities and VAPA
IS: Sponsored and planned by the SLT
Refining the Concept

We refined ArtsCenter concept bearing these questions:

1) What are the greatest needs for Arts Education in SFUSD?
2) How can ArtsCenter be planned and built entirely through the lens of access and equity?
3) How can ArtsCenter genuinely benefit 57,000 students and over 130 schools in SFUSD?
SFUSD ArtsCenter
Staff Working Group

LEADS
• Guadalupe Guerrero, Deputy Superintendent, IISJ
• Myong Leigh, Deputy Superintendent, P & O

TEAM
• David Goldin, Chief Facilities Officer
• Jill Hoogendyk, Chief of Strategic Initiatives
• Danielle Houck, Chief General Counsel
• Craig Issod, Consultant
• Abram Jimenez, Chief of Schools
• Laura Moran, Chief of Strategy and Fund Development
• Orla O’Keeffe, Executive Director, P & O
• Bill Sanderson, Assistant Superintendent, High Schools
• Brent Stephens, Chief Academic Officer
Board Update

Academic Imperative and Vision: The Need for SFUSD ArtsCenter
The freedom, confidence, and ability to express their unique selves. Students will have exposure to and experience in a variety of creative and artistic forms and disciplines that serve to ignite their curiosity and enable them to find new pathways for expressing their unique identities and for exploring their own skills and styles. They will know how to integrate creative problem-solving into their work and how to approach problems and challenges creatively and from multiple perspectives.
Revised Recommendation

By August 2020, construct and open SFUSD ArtsCenter at 135 Van Ness/170 Fell that has four distinct components designed to provide SFUSD’s PreK-12 students with equitable access to arts.

1. SFUSD Arts Institute
2. Ruth Asawa School of the Arts (Asawa SOTA)
3. Nourse Theater
4. ArtsPlaza
Considered Middle School

• Carefully considered middle school

• Concluded
  – The physical space is not ideal for a middle school
  – Civic Center location is optimal for a high school but it might pose challenges for younger middle school students
  – Concerned that a magnet middle school for the arts might drastically reduce the quality of arts participation and programming in our comprehensive middle schools
  – We must be laser-focused in the next five years on creating arts education from Pre-K to 8th grade and supporting the Asawa SOTA build a diverse and robust applicant pool from all our middle schools
What’s Changed Since May 2015?

Place focus on SFUSD Arts Institute

- 68,000 square-feet dedicated to enriching arts education
- Collaborative space that meets the needs that will be articulated in the new Arts Education Master Plan, including sequential arts education.
- Venue for professional development and year-round arts education programming
- Central hub for partnerships, leveraging the vast resources of our diverse, multi-cultural artistic community
Move Asawa SOTA high school into a 200,000 square-foot school space that’s designed to accommodate:

• 850-900 high school students (250-300 more than current enrollment);

• the expansion of existing art disciplines at Asawa SOTA; and

• the addition of new art disciplines that reflect and promote the cultural diversity of SFUSD’s students.

(no change from May 2015)
Nourse Theater

Renovate Nourse to create:

• State-of-the-art theater space including a main stage, set up shops, storage, dressing rooms, and an auditorium to accommodate between 1,200 and 1,600 patrons
• Main stage for students at Asawa SOTA
• Much-needed, state-of-the-art theater space to all SFUSD schools

(no change from May 2015)
ArtsPlaza

Create open-air courtyard at 135 Van Ness that provides:

• Outdoor urban plaza that showcases public art created by SFUSD students
• Forum for community gatherings and performances
• Welcoming “front door” to SFUSD for students, artists and the community

(no change from May 2015)
Community Engagement

- SFUSD ArtsCenter can only take its form through the engagement of a diverse cross-section of the community
- The AEMP planning process will provide construct
- Need to include schools and students, teachers and artists, community organizations and leaders, and diverse point-of-view
- Important to establish parameters now for our vision of access, equity, innovation, and collaboration
Costs

• Requires a significant investment of public and private funds – approximately $300 million

• Costs include escalation, historic preservation, and seismic retrofitting
Potential Funding Streams

✓ $15MM unsold 2003 bonds marked exclusively for RASOTA at 135 Van Ness
✓ $9MM RASOTA reserve fund
✓ $100MM Future G.O. Bonds
✓ $20MM Developer fees (future fees of $6-8 million a year)
✓ $125MM Capital Campaign (requires immediate investigation/action)
✓ $47MM State Bond – speculative
✓ $15MM Federal Funding – speculative
✓ $18MM McAteer (partial) – speculative
✓ $?MM Real estate sales – speculative

Key requirements:
Broad-based leadership, vision, consensus and will
Concerns We Must Address

• How we ensure that ArtsCenter does not compromise on our defined values and core principles of SFUSD
• How we build capacity internally to proceed with the project
• How we program and sustain ArtsCenter after it opens
• Where we relocate staff from 135 Van Ness
• How we engage members of the Asawa SOTA community from the start of the planning process
• How to ensure real access to those children, families and teachers who need it the most
• How we engage others outside of SFUSD
Next Steps

• Solidify programmatic elements, financial models, and project prospectus
• Build capacity internally to carry out program planning, facilities planning, and community engagement
• Further design to inform EIR
• Explore structure under which project will be managed
• Gain broad community consensus
• Draft Board resolution and complete Bond authorization for November 2016
• Engage and enroll key stakeholders
• Begin resource development process
A Vision for our District and our City