



CITY OF VENICE

Memorandum

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council

FROM: Pam Johnson, Marketing and Communications Officer 

Through: Edward F. Lavalley, City Manager

DATE: Nov. 26, 2013

SUBJECT: Performing Arts Center Use Agreement

History: In 2007, residents of Venice identified the number one priority for expenditure of 1-cent sales tax revenues was the creation of a performing arts center.

A partnership between the City of Venice and the Sarasota County School Board was established to enhance opportunities for students to learn in a state-of-the-art facility, while enabling the community to showcase local talent and enjoy top-notch artistic entertainment from around the world.

The city agreed to pay \$7.3 million of the total projected cost of \$12.7 million.

Ken Dean, the architect who designed the 1980 high school renovation returned to help us design this beautiful high school you see today, including the Performing Arts Center that will be completed a year from now.

Scott Lempe, Sarasota County School Board chief operating officer, led the building committee to get input from the city and three of the main performing arts users, the Venice Symphony, Venice Concert Band and Exsultate!

Representing the city on this committee were former council member John Moore, retired acting city manager Nancy Woodley, and Marketing and Communications Officer Pam Johnson. Finance Director Jeff Snyder was instrumental in working out the financial arrangements.

Staff Recommendation: Attached is the final agreement for use of the new facility between the city and the school board. It was approved by the School Board on Nov. 19.

It has been reviewed by City Attorney Dave Persson and other city staff members. Staff recommends approval of this document.