**Elementary Music Program Options**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

General Questions

Q: What are the options?

A: 1) No change

*Explanation: Self–selected 5th & 6 grade band and orchestra students receive 2 lessons a week*

2) General Music

*Explanation: 4 whole classes of students receive 2 lessons a week --or up to 9 classes of students receive 2 lessons a week in the Residency model.*

3) Hybrid Model

*Explanation: 2 classes of 6th gr. instrumental students AND 2 classes of general music students receive 2 lessons a week.*

Q: Is this a permanent decision?

A: No. But no changes would be made before the year is completed.

General Music Questions

Q: We want all our students to get general music-- so can we teach them in rotating large groups, every other week so, a whole grade level at a time if their teachers come with them?

A: No, selected classes (not grade-levels) would be taught two times a week, throughout the school year.

*Explanation: General Music core curriculum has a developmental sequence for students to build confidence, understanding and skills in listening, playing, singing, reading, and writing music. Training the muscles involved takes consistent, regular practice over time.*

Q: Would the teachers be required to attend with their classes?

A: We would hope so, because of the benefits to students and teachers.

*Explanation: Benefits such as using the music to teach concepts in other subjects, a classroom management technique, a means to quickly re-engage students, or to develop valuable life skills. In this way teachers who are interested in gaining a Level I music endorsement could be instantly provided with a “built-in” mentor and/or model. However, that is a local decision.*

Q: Do we have the freedom to choose which classes would get General Music?

A: Yes.

Q: Are there advantages to choosing certain grade levels?

A: Generally speaking, the younger you start, the better, however, when you can’t serve everyone you’ll perhaps want to consider what is being offered in each classroom and where the need is the greatest.

Q: Will general music prepare students for junior high school band and orchestra classes?

A: Yes it is a foundation for all the junior school music classes.

*Explanation: General Music Core Curriculum includes learning to read music, to play simple classroom instruments, to distinguish pitches and tone qualities, to understand how music is organized, how to get meaning from music, how to express themselves through music, and to be familiar with the sounds and characteristics of all the instruments.*

Q: How does the Residency option work?

A: It brings a music specialist as a resident musician to the school for 2 full days a week for 12 weeks, and when not in residence, once a month all day Friday as a resource for PD, modeling, integration support, development of school community involvement and resources. Without the need to travel during the day, the number of students that can be served doubles.

Hybrid Program Questions

Q: Would two music teachers come as a team in the same way as before?

A: Most likely.

Q: Do we have to choose between 6th grade band and orchestra or can we have both?

A: You can request both.

Possible scenarios

*--If you choose both, a scenario would be that one music teacher teaches band and orchestra students in sequence while the other teaches general music students. Another would be that each teacher teaches one class of general music students AND band OR orchestra students in sequence.*

*--If you choose exclusively band or orchestra students, the music teacher could divide them into two levels, or could teach a class of general music.*

Q: Do we have to choose 6th grade classes for the general music?

A: No. However, the 6th grade instrumental students must not disadvantaged, nor be given extra work to make up for what they miss.