



# Instrumental Music Program

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Parent Informational Meeting  
February 28, 2019

# Current Whitnall K-12 Music Offerings

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## General Music

K5 - Grade 5

Music Lab (Grade 6)

Musical Theatre (Grades 7-8)

Music Production 1 (Grades 9-12)

Music Production 2 (Grades 9-12)

Rock Band 1 (Grades 9-12)

Rock Band 2 (Grades 9-12)

AP Music Theory (Grades 10-12)

## Ensemble Performance

Orchestra Lessons (Grades 4-5) &  
Ensemble (Grade 5)

Orchestra (Grades 6-8)

Orchestra (Grades 9-12)

Band Lessons & Q4 Ensemble (Grade 5)

Beginning Band (Grade 6)

Band (Grades 6-8)

Concert Band (9-12)

Symphonic Band (9-12)

Jazz Ensemble (9-12)

Choir (Grades 6-8)

Choir (Grades 9-12)

# Challenges and Opportunities

## K-12 Music Instructor Staffing



- Not equal FTE among music teachers
- Not same FTE as other 6-12 teachers
- Retirement for 2019-20

## Elementary Instrumental Program Equity



- HCE and EES students currently don't have same instrumental experience
- HCE and EES students pulled from other classes, different at each building
- Tiered entry points

## Middle School Schedule



- A/B schedule
- In 2019-20:
  - Connect expansion
  - Co-teaching

# Options to Address Challenges

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1

Continue with current programming

- A. Revise elementary schedules to provide equity to programming
- B. Redistribute teaching FTE to cover all current program

2

Revise current programming

Instrumental: ~~4<sup>th</sup>~~ and ~~5<sup>th</sup>~~

Instrumental: **6<sup>th</sup>** and **7<sup>th</sup>** and **8<sup>th</sup>**  
(with enhanced lesson program)

# Why Option 2?

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- Teacher travel time vs. instructional time
- Elementary student pull out model
- Inequity in instrumental programming by school
- Slower start to learning instrument creates less “stick-to-it-ness”
- Current loss of students from 5th to 6th in instrumental programs

## Other Considerations

- Current 4th grade orchestra students
- “Other” districts
- Research



# Thoughts and Vision for 6-12 Band & Orchestra

Mr. Ash, Ms. Seiter & Mr. Zens

# WMS Band & Orchestra (grades 6-7-8)

## Currently:

- ❑ All Band & Orchestra classes meet as a full class 2.5 times per week (A/B schedule); each class is 50 minutes in length
- ❑ 2-3 formal concerts per year; additional performances available
- ❑ (Chorus follows the same format)

## Moving forward:

- ❑ Additional minutes built into WMS schedule to accommodate small group lesson instruction

# Short and Long Term Goals for 6-12 Band & Orchestra

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- Continued increase in student participation in band/orchestra classes
- Continued increase in student participation in supplementary music experiences
- Consistent opportunities for educational travel as an important component of the band/orchestra experience
- International travel and performance opportunities
- Collaborative projects with composers
- Increased exposure for or creation of additional music ensembles (Marching Band, Jazz Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, etc)



# Next Steps/Timeline

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- Finalizing Variables:
  - WMS and WHS course registrations
  - Next year 6th graders will have had instrumental lessons in 4th/5th grade
  - Equity of programming at elementary schools
  - Building schedules/teaching schedules
- Stakeholder Feedback
- Board Meeting in March
- Communication to Parents