

Appendix F

Facilities and Equipment

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Physical Environment

In order to realize the curriculum outcomes for music education, and to provide an appropriate learning environment, consideration must be given to the special requirements involved in music instruction. The intermediate music program is diverse and includes singing, writing, moving, creating and choral and instrumental performance.

Movement is an essential component of the music program and requires a large open space where large classes can engage in free unstructured movement, as well as folk dance. Such a space can be adapted for other music activities. If space allows, chairs, which can be stacked and rearranged, are desirable, as are tables for writing. The room should be large enough to accommodate the playing of classroom instruments and choral and instrumental groups.

Choral groups will require room for choral risers (collapsible) and band and string programs require space to accommodate chairs and music stands. As musical instruments and instructional equipment are expensive and easily damaged, sufficient and appropriate storage space is necessary.

Location

Because music instruction involves critical listening, performing, and creating, music rooms should be acoustically isolated from the rest of the school so that extraneous sounds cannot enter the instructional environment. Learning outcomes cannot be realized when music instruction takes place on gymnasium stages, in gymnasiums, or cafeterias. These are not appropriate environments for music education. The acoustics of the room are extremely important when students are required to respond, aurally identify and/or produce pitch, articulation, blend, balance, rhythm, melody, etc.

Furnishings and Equipment

Furnishings and equipment should include:

- sound system with recording capacity
- piano/keyboard
- overhead projector
- appropriate storage for musical instruments
- student chairs, tables, music stands for instrumental instruction
- appropriate storage for musical scores, resource materials, CDs electronic/MIDI music work stations (computer, printer, MIDI keyboard, pc viewer)
- portable risers
- selection of pitched and non-pitched instruments