# There is Flexibility of Title 1 Funds to Support a Well-Rounded Education that Includes Music

The Two Types of Title 1 Programs Are:

### Schoolwide

Comprehensive program designed to upgrade the entire educational program in order to improve performance of the lowest-achieving students (a school with poverty percentage of 40% or more).



Music should be part of whole school reform to improve academic achievement, school culture, and climate.

Each school is encouraged to include activities that support a well-rounded education in its schoolwide plan, which includes music.

### **Targeted Assistance**

Supplemental education services to eligible students with the greatest need.



Including music as part of a well-rounded education to be used as a resource to help students identified as at-risk to improve academic performance.





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#### Resources

Americans for the Arts americansforthearts.org

Arts Education Partnership aep-arts.org/essa

NAfME's "Everything ESSA" page nafme.org/take-action/elementary -and-secondary-education-act-esea-updates

NAMM "Issues and Advocacy Music Education" page namm.org/issues-and-advocacy/music-education

NAMM Foundation "Why Learn to Play Music" brochure nammfoundation.org/educator-resources /why-learn-play-music-advocacy-brochure-0

*Striking a Chord, The Public's Hopes and Beliefs* nammfoundation.org/striking-chord

U.S. Department of Education ed.gov/essa?src=rn

Or contact the organization below for more information:

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# Music is Part of a Well-Rounded Education

What parents need to know about music education and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Federal Education Law

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## "Well Rounded Education"

The term 'well-rounded education' means courses, activities and programming in subjects such as English, reading or language arts, writing, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, geography, computer science, <u>music</u>, career and technical education, health, physical education, and any other subject, as determined by the state or local educational agency, with the purpose of providing all students access to an enriched curriculum and educational experience." S. 2277 (52) State and local school districts are making changes to policy and funding to meet the requirements of the new ESSA federal education law. What follows are the "three R's" of music and arts education advocacy to assure that ALL children have the opportunity to learn and grow with music and the arts.

## **<u>Reinforce</u>** what's in the law.

Inform local school district heads, administrators, state legislators and education leaders about the NEW language in the ESSA that includes music as part of "a well-rounded education."

Since a school's curriculum is "determined by the state or local education agency," local districts have the opportunity to act on the overwhelming belief of parents and teachers that music should be available to all students as part of the curriculum and in keeping with the volumes of research that validate the benefits of music learning for children and its impact on fostering successful schools. (www.nammfoundation.org)





**Remind** school and community leaders, and other stakeholders about the benefits of music education including its impact on school climate and the many ways in which music can strengthen a student's connection to school.

### FACT

Children who study a musical instrument are more likely to excel in all of their studies, work better in teams, have enhanced critical thinking skills, stay in school and pursue further education.

### FACT

Benefits of music education for children include learning cooperation, sharing, compromise, creativity and concentration—skills that become invaluable as they enter school, face new challenges, begin to form new friendships and develop social skills.

## FACT

**89%** of teachers and **82%** of parents rate music education highly as a source for greater student creativity, a 21<sup>st</sup> century skill that's highly likely to help young people stand out in an increasingly competitive global economy.

**<u>Request</u>** that your school and community leaders collaborate with the school district, who can ultimately work with the state to:

- Develop and expand music education programs for all students, as part of school turnaround and reform objectives; encourage districts to assess if music education is available to ALL students; and encourage use of Federal Title 1 and IV funds to expand music education for all students.
- Expand access to music education in your school, assuring support for highly qualified teachers and educational materials.
- Review the district's opportunities to participate in the federal preschool grant program that included the arts within the "Essential Domain of School Readiness" definition.
- Work to assure that music education is part of school climate accountability and assessment measures that are reportable to both state and federal education agencies.

