2017 Music Education Advocacy Day
Legislative Ask—Music for ALL Students

Congress recently passed a new version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) includes important language that clearly states that students should have opportunities to engage in a broad curriculum, which includes music, as part of a “well-rounded” education.

We ask that legislators support legislative and administrative initiatives that will provide music instruction to every student by a qualified music educator. The state of Michigan is one of only five states without an instructional mandate for elementary music. School districts in the state of Michigan are therefore under no obligation to provide consistent, sequential music education experiences in elementary school, a crucial stage in children’s musical development.

We encourage you to support two K-5 music education bills, SB 0198 and HB 4349. If enacted, this ESSA-aligned legislation would authorize best practice guidelines for K-5 general music contact time and teaching environment, and would ensure the preservation and continuous development of high quality music education experiences for all Michigan students.

Michigan should require K-5 general music instruction. Music classes provide places where ALL students can be successful, creative and innovative. Participation in music empowers students to appreciate artistic works. Michigan should provide students a “well-rounded” education that supports the whole student.

*MMEA and MSVMA are united in their support for quality music education in Michigan and are here to help make this legislative ask a reality. Please call/email Cory Micheel-Mays (MMEA Executive Director) with questions or for additional research-based support for these initiatives:*

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