

# LANCASTER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 2011-2012

## Music Department

Goal Area:

(Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum, Instructional Strategies, Assessment, Student Motivation)

### Aligning assessment, grading and tracking of student progress in HS instrumental music lessons

Department Objective: To line-up the teaching and assessing practices employed by the four HS instrumental music teachers

What? Strategy	How? Major Tasks / Activities	When? Dates - <i>Begin/End</i>	Who? 1. Responsibility	Who? 2. Workers	Accomplished? Evidence of Completion/Success
Create common scheduling practices, number of meeting times and make-ups	Sharing scheduling ideas, meeting to discuss how make-ups are scheduled and graded, discussing scheduling grids and how many lessons take place per quarter	First quarter 2011, technical development	HS Music Department Dept Chair	HS Instrumental Music Teachers	Instrumental music students are meeting benchmarks set at the beginning of the quarter. Students are meeting a set amount of times during the quarter, and make-ups are carried-out and graded.
Create common grading practices	Referring to the Instrumental Music curriculum and setting benchmarks to act as guides for grading. Modes of assessment used throughout the quarter.	First and Second quarters 2011, technical development and solo project	HS Music Department Dept Chair	HS Instrumental Music Teachers	Instrumental music students will be receiving appropriate grading throughout all four instrumental music teachers with regard to attendance, benchmarks set, and make-ups met. Grades will reflect an assessment strategy that is common to both band and orchestra students.

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### Maximizing our use of the District Website to aid instruction with students and to aid communication with parents.

Department Objective: Our Department needs a coordinated and efficient approach in regard to placing information and updating information on the District website.

What? Strategy	How? Major Tasks / Activities	When? Dates - Begin/End	Who? 1. Responsibility	Who? 2. Workers	Accomplished? Evidence of Completion/Success
Develop a Coordinated Music Dept website on the LSCD website	Training and sharing of ideas to facilitate a user-friendly website.	August-Sept-Oct 2011	District Technology Trainer,  Tech experts within the Dept.  Dept Chair	Music Dept Members	Coordinated and active Website up and running.

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### Choral and Instrumental Conducting Skill Development

Department Objective: In an effort to assure our musical ensemble conductors are maximizing **Best Practices of the Discipline**, we plan to have workshops with area experts in the field.

What? Strategy	How? Major Tasks / Activities	When? Dates - <i>Begin/End</i>	Who? 1. Responsibility	Who? 2. Workers	Accomplished? Evidence of Completion/Success
Choral Conducting Seminar	Summer workshop utilizing area experts such as Marcia Giambrone, Norm Zogaib, Cathy Sutherland, Cindy Ripley, etc. for new ideas, critique of skills, etc.	TBA	Secondary Curriculum Specialists, Music Dept. Chair, Dept Members	Choral Teachers	Workshop completed and new ideas implemented Fall 2011.
Instrumental Conducting Seminar	workshop utilizing area experts to explore ways to improve skills on the podium, thus improving instruction.	In conjunction with conducting Guest Artist	Secondary Curriculum Specialists, Music Dept. Chair, Dept Members	Band and Orchestra Teachers	Workshop completed and new ideas implemented during 2011-2012 SY.

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### Research and development of a K-3 Music Schedule in-line with other special areas.

Department Objective: All other special areas have sections of 40 minutes in length. Music classes are currently 30 or 35 minutes in length, creating an inequity in instruction that students receive, and also creating problems in scheduling. Implementation of this plan in a time of declining elementary enrollment may keep more K-3 teachers as a part of their school community full-time and avoid the problems of itinerate teachers all around the district.

What?	How?	When?	Who?	Who?	Accomplished?
Strategy	Major Tasks / Activities	Dates - Begin/End	1. Responsibility	2. Workers	Evidence of Completion/Success
Continue the work of the district-wide committee of music teachers, classroom teachers and administrators to investigate this change	Continued research of other area districts and what they provide in this area.  Committee meetings and recommendation to the BOE and Superintendent.	Sept-November, 2011	Curriculum Coordinators, Music Dept. Chair	K-3 Principals, Classroom and Music Teachers	Recommendation and action on that recommendation.

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### Creation and Utilization of Data for Improvement of Instruction

Department Objective: To seek out and utilize those assessments which provide the most useful feedback and allow teachers to target areas for additional instruction or enrichment.

What?	How?	When?	Who?	Who?	Accomplished?
Strategy	Major Tasks / Activities	Dates - <i>Begin/End</i>	1. Responsibility	2. Workers	Evidence of Completion/Success
Connecting with other districts with similar programming	Research in the form of <b>collegial inquiry and goal setting</b> at different levels	Sept. 2011- May 2012	Collegial Inquiry participants	members of the Music Dept.	A comprehensive evaluation and benchmark package for annual evaluation of student musical skills.
Update and Implementation of the Instrumental Curriculum (Band and strings)	Final input, editing and approval	July-October 2011	All Instrumental (Band) Faculty plus outside specialists	Music Dept.	Curriculum Booklet in the hands of Instrumental teachers plus curriculum specialists. Use benchmarks listed for data collection.
Student portfolio	Binder to keep all solo festival scores/ evaluations for each student in an organization. Could be handed on to next teacher.	Sept 2011 June 2012	Each ensemble teacher	Dept. Members	Binders, by ensemble with individual student information inside.

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### Recruitment and Retention

Department Objective: To improve recruitment of new students and retain students currently in the program at a higher level.

What?	How?	When?	Who?	Who?	Accomplished?
Strategy	Major Tasks / Activities	Dates - <i>Begin/End</i>	1. Responsibility	2. Workers	Evidence of Completion/Success
Combined Concerts—Phase 2	In-school ensembles in grades 6-12 give shared performances in all 3 areas <b>District Choral Concert</b> <b>District String Concert</b> <b>District Band Concert(s)</b>	January 2011 String Orchestras March 2012 Orchestra/Band	Music Teachers in the Dept.	HS Facilities Host—all others contribute	Concert attendance and parental response-- check for improvement in enrollment for ensemble classes.
Continue an After School Select Chorus at LMS—Work on Schedule D status	Give students who wish to sing, but cannot fit it in their LMS schedule, an opportunity to continue their choral experience.	Rehearse one time per week, after school Sept 11-May 12	LMS Choral teachers....other music teachers assist with promotion	LMS Music teachers	Performance on two concerts; Students rejoining choral program in 8 <sup>th</sup> or 9 <sup>th</sup> grade.
Recruitment Videos and presentation	<b>Update</b> in-class presentations in anticipation of counseling sessions and auditions.	Sept.2011- January 2012	Secondary teachers by area string, band, choral	Music Dept.	check for improvement in enrollment for ensemble classes. Create an interest for non-musicians