

School District U-46

High School Intro to Instrumental Music Curriculum and Resource Proposal for SY 2026-2027 Implementation

Board of Education Presentation

Presenters

Jaimie Abney-Giraldo, Fine Arts Coordinator
Zachary Geller, Fine Arts Teacher Leader
Lisa Yagow, U-46 Orchestra and Chorus Teacher

February 10, 2025



Purpose

- The purpose of this proposal is to recommend the adoption and implementation of the new High School Intro to Instrumental Music curriculum as recommended, starting in the 2026-2027 school year.
- In this course, students will learning instrumental performance techniques, basic music literacy and theory, and will explore different music genres. They will also attend performances and participate in goal-setting and reflection activities.
- At the completion of this yearlong course, students will be prepared for successful participation and enrollment in the entry-level high school band, orchestra, or Mariachi ensemble at their school.

Alignment to Strategic Plan

U46 STRATEGIC PLAN AUG 2022 Revised



Student Success

It is our responsibility to ensure all students are engaged in rigorous learning, receive quality core instruction, and can develop the skills they need for better life chances and opportunities. By helping students develop self and peer agency, they will develop a growth mindset as they learn to expand their perspectives.

Effective & Engaged Staff

We will value, develop, recruit, and retain a forward-thinking, highly qualified, and diverse workforce. We will establish a robust process for measuring employee engagement to identify and proactively address employee engagement issues.

Culture, Climate & Community

We will engage in meaningful and effective relationships with our students, families and the greater community and will ensure that our schools are welcoming and inviting places for all of our U-46 students and families. We will become a choice district that inspires families to join us.

Excellence, Efficiency & Accountability

We will advocate for and utilize systems and resources that promote fiscal equity, operational excellence, efficiency and accountability. It is our moral imperative to change until all our systems measurably work for all students.



Rationale

- Current onboarding = one true onboarding point for students in elementary school.
- Late beginners are often not successful without significant intervention or added cost (private lessons).

With this in mind, we designed this late onboarding opportunity for students to join our instrumental music programs at any time in their high school career.

- New course meets this need for high school beginners.
- Middle school late onboarding will be included in Secondary Music curriculum revision in the next two years.
- We continue to evaluate our secondary ensemble music curriculum in order to identify gaps in service and opportunity.

Committee Members

Lisa Yagow

Kimball Middle School Orchestra and Chorus Teacher

Zachary Geller

Teacher Leader for Fine Arts Curriculum Programming

Jaimie Abney-Giraldo

Fine Arts Coordinator

with additional contributions from:

Juan Sánchez and ***Allison Vickers***

Process - Timeline

Call to Committee Issued	November 2023
Curriculum Development and Review of Resources	Fall 2023 - Fall 2024
Instructional Council	November 21, 2024
Board of Education	February 10, 2025

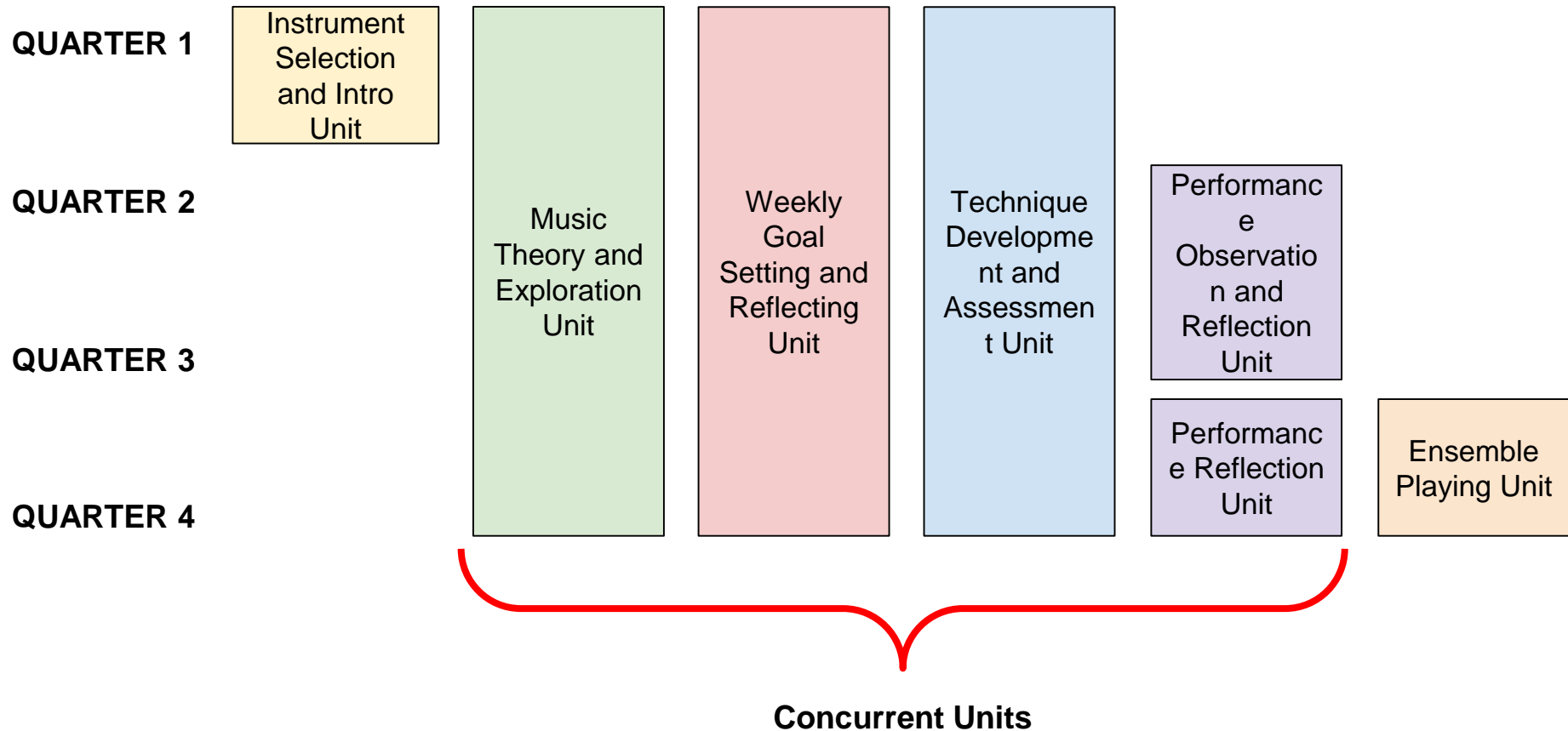
Standards

- The curriculum for the High School Intro to Instrumental Music course was developed using the National Core Arts Standards (<https://www.nationalartsstandards.org/>) for music.
 - *Music: Composition and Theory* Strand
 - *Music: Traditional and Emerging Ensembles* Strand

Program Overview/ Course Sequence

- Band Instrument Sequence (Winds)
 - Flute
 - Clarinet
 - Trumpet (may switch to Mariachi 2nd Semester)
 - Trombone
- Orchestra Instrument Sequence (Strings)
 - Violin (may switch to Mariachi 2nd Semester)
 - Cello
- Mariachi Instrument Sequence
 - Guitar
 - Guitarrón
 - Mariachi Trumpet (2nd Semester)
 - Mariachi Violin (2nd Semester)
- Instruction focuses on learning in four main areas:
 - Rhythm and Music Theory
 - Individual Technique Development
 - Goal Setting and Reflection
 - Music Exploration and Appreciation

Program Overview/ Course Sequence



Program Overview/ Course Sequence

- This course may be taught by a band, orchestra, or Mariachi teacher, who will be assigned as the primary teacher of record.
- Itinerant Elgin Teachers Association (ETA) instrument specialists will be scheduled on a rotating basis to provide additional instrument-specific support, similar to how elementary band and orchestra instruction is currently assigned and scheduled.
 - Woodwind Specialist
 - Brass Specialist
 - String Specialist
 - Mariachi Armonía Specialist

Recommended Resources

- Resources include instruments (based on availability in the school's existing inventory) as well as the consumables listed below:
 - Student instrument method books (workbooks)
 - Student licenses for MusicFirst Classroom
 - Musical instrument accessories (consumables)
 - Reeds
 - Rosin
 - Oil/Grease
 - Strings
 - Straps
 - Shoulder Rests
 - Picks
- In addition to these consumables, teachers will need the Teacher's Editions for each of the method books used by the students.
- Please see the spreadsheet listing the method books that each student/sequence will be using.

Implementation Plan

- Spring 2026
 - Teacher Professional Learning
 - Resource Purchase
- SY 2026-2027
 - Course Implementation

Professional Learning

- Required professional learning will include:
 - Initial implementation support
 - Unpacking standards and curriculum documents
 - Unpacking unit assessments and rubrics
 - Resource training as needed
- Additional support will be available on an ongoing and as-needed basis.

Cost

(Based on estimated enrollment of 25 students per site)

Item	Initial Cost	Yearly Cost
Student Edition Method Books (Workbooks) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Specific amounts will not be available until actual student enrollment is known.Based on estimated enrollment and current retail prices of the recommended method book titles.	<i>(classroom/ teacher set)</i> \$200.00	\$3,000.00
MusicFirst Classroom Licenses <ul style="list-style-type: none">Specific amount will not be available until actual student enrollment is known.Based on estimated enrollment and the current 3-year license pricing for Secondary Music ensemble courses.	N/A <i>(seats available in current 3-year subscription)</i>	<i>(after current 3-year license expires)</i> \$8,350.00
Consumables - Musical Instrument Accessories <ul style="list-style-type: none">Based on estimated enrollment at a rate of \$50/student.	\$2,500.00	\$6,500.00
Teacher Edition Method Books	\$1,500.00	N/A
TOTAL	\$4,200.00	\$17,850.00

Cost

- **Estimated Total INITIAL Cost of Proposal** **\$4,200.00**
 - **Estimated Number of Students** **125**
 - **Estimated INITIAL Per-Student Cost of Proposal** **\$33.60**
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- **Estimated Total ANNUAL Cost of Proposal** **\$17,850.00**
 - **Estimated Number of Students** **125**
 - **Estimated ANNUAL Per-Student Cost of Proposal** **\$142.80**

