

**Fairbanks Music Advocacy Committee
Annual Report
2016-2017**

Cover Letter

Date: April 4, 2017

To: Fairbanks North Star Borough School Board Members

CC: Dr. Karen Gaborik, FNSBSD Music Teachers

From: Fairbanks Music Advocacy Committee

Subject: Fairbanks North Star Borough School District Annual Report of Music Education

Thank you for taking the time to review our annual report on K-12 Music Education in the FNSBSD. This is our second year compiling the annual report, researched and written by the Fairbanks Music Advocacy Committee (MAC), a community-based advocacy group that has worked with music teachers in our district to provide the information for the report. The purpose of this report is to provide continuing information regarding the state of music education in the Fairbanks Northstar Borough School District.

The committee is open to anyone who believes music is an essential part of our quality of life. Musicians, community members, teachers, administrators, parents, and anyone who is passionate about equal access to music education for all kids are welcome. The current goal is to publicize our existence and educate our members on our principles and mission. We'll know that we've established ourselves as a credible, well-informed, student-focused organization when decision makers come to us to determine the impacts of their decisions before making any changes affecting music education.

We are available to answer any questions, address concerns, or hear comments from you regarding either the content of this report or the Music Advocacy Committee.

Sincerely,

Fairbanks Music Advocacy Committee

Fairbanks Music Advocacy Committee 2016-2017 Annual Report

Purpose: The purpose of this annual report is to keep administration and school board members informed about the activities and importance of its music programs.

Fairbanks Music Advocacy Committee: An advocacy group made of parents, community members, and music educators who are focused on encouraging the growth of K-12 music education programs for all students in the FNSBSD. It is not a fundraising organization, but it will work with parent or booster groups in support of school music programs.

Committee Mission Statement: Music is a universal language and an essential quality of being human. Each student deserves the opportunity to experience, participate in, and perform music. Through music in our schools we empower our students to develop 21st century skills in order to become productive members of a diverse and changing society. It is our mission to advance a consistent and thriving music program in every school. Music education promotes critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration, creativity, initiative, self-direction, leadership, and responsibility.

Principles: Our committee is built on the following principles:

- Our committee is student-centered – we are focused on the impact of any decision on students.
- Our committee’s focus is on music education as a unified, district-wide-effort – it is not focused on individual schools, special programs, or music directors.
- Our committee is a community-based organization committed to creating long-term positive relationship with key decision makers affecting music education.

Goals: The primary goal of our coalition is to support music in the curriculum and to promote access to music in the curriculum for all students.

Additional goals include:

- To promote a balanced curriculum that treats music as an equal – not in competition with other subjects.
- To recognize and share information about the positive contributions of our school music programs to our children, our schools, and our community.
- To inform school board members and school administration on district-wide issues related to music.
- To have an ongoing, long-term focus on music in the curriculum.
- To present an annual report to the Fairbanks North Star Borough School Board.

Membership: Anyone who has a passion for music and believes all students should have access to music education.

Focus of Report:

- The focus of this report will be to provide a summary of how many students are involved in music across our district, at which schools, and who is providing instruction.
- A summary of performance highlights and “Good Things” happening in our district.
- Recommendations for improvement.

Plans Forward:

- The annual report will be presented at the end of each school year- growing in scope over time.
- Continue to work with district music educators to develop short and long-term plans for K-12 Music Education.

Resources:

John L. Benham, Music Advocacy (Rowman and Littlefield, 2011)

Alaska Music Educator’s Association: www.alaskamea.ning.com

Alaska School Activities Association: <http://asaa.org/activities/music/>

Alaska State Council on the Arts: <https://education.alaska.gov/aksca/>

Alaska State Education Standards: <https://education.alaska.gov/akstandards/standards/>

Washington Music Educator’s Association: www.wmea.org

National Association for Music Education: www.nafme.org

Music Teacher Directory

Below is a table of contact information for every music teacher in the FNSBSD.

Elementary Schools

School	Teacher	Phone	Email
Anderson	Nichole Lawrence	907-372-2167	nichole.lawrence@k12northstar.org
Anne Wien	Meta Bravos	907-451-7500	meta.bravos@k12northstar.org
Arctic Light	Frances Lupton	907-356-2038	frances.lupton@k12northstar.org
Badger	Barbara Quaille	907-488-0134	barbara.quaille@k12northstar.org
Crawford	Nichole Lawrence	907-372-3306	nichole.lawrence@k12northstar.org
Denali	Connie Oba	907-452-2456	connie.oba@k12northstar.org
Hunter	Mike Sarbone	907-457-5775	michael.sarbone@k12northstar.org
Joy	Doug Lange	907-456-5469	doug.lange@k12northstar.org
Ladd	Kristina Mulready	907-451-1700	kristina.mulready@k12northstar.org
Nordale	Linda Hudson	907-452-2696	linda.hudson@k12northstar.org
North Pole	Nathan Arnold	907-488-2286	nathan.arnold@k12northstar.org
Pearl Creek	Kristi McEwen	907-479-4234	kristi.mcewen@k12northstar.org
Salcha	Courtney Miklos	907-479-3267	courtney.miklos@k12Northstar.org
Ticasuk Brown	Melanie Linton	907-488-3200	melanie.linton@k12northstar.org
Two Rivers (K-8)	Emily Rodriguez	907-488-6616	emily.rodriguez@k12northstar.org
University Park	Bridget Machida	907-479-6963	bridget.machida@k12northstar.org
Weller	Dennis Degnan	907-457-1629	dennis.degnan@k12northstar.org
Woodriver	Lucile Hackett	907-479-4211	lucile.hackett@k12northstar.org

Middle School

School	Teacher	Phone	Email
Ben Eielson	Katrina Nore	907-372-3110	katrina.nore@k12northstar.org
North Pole	Vanessa Jackson (band/choir)	907-488-2271	vanessa.jackson@k12northstar.org
North Pole	Todd Wienke (orchestra/drama)	907-488-2271	todd.wienke@k12northstar.org
Randy Smith	Bobb Lockwood	907-458-7600	robert.lockwood@k12northstar.org
Ryan	Campbell Longworth	907-452-4751	campbell.longworth@k12northstar.org
Tanana	Simon Traynor	907-452-8145	simon.traynor@k12northstar.org

High School

School	Teacher	Phone	Email
Ben Eielson	Katrina Nore	907-372-3110	katrina.nore@k12northstar.org
Lathrop	Carolyn Soderlund (choir/guitar)	907-456-7794	carolyn.soderlund@k12northstar.org
Lathrop	Tristan Hovest (band/orchestra)	907-456-7794	tristan.hovest@k12northstar.org
North Pole	Bruce Hanson (choir)	907-488-3761	bruce.hanson@k12northstar.org
North Pole August – December	Richard Gresham (band/orchestra/guitar)	907-488-3761	richard.gresham@k12northstar.org
North Pole January-May	Luke Soren Nielson (band/orchestra/guitar)	907-488-3761	lukesorennielsen@gmail.com
West Valley	Lucas Clooten (band/guitar/steel pan)	907-479-4221	lucas.clooten@k12northstar.org
West Valley	Trevor Adams (orchestra)	907-479-4221	trevor.adams@k12northstar.org

Districtwide

Teacher	Schools	Subject	Email
Katie Bates	North Pole Elem., Badger, Ticasuk Brown	Orchestra	katie.bates@k12northstar.org

Gwendolyn Brazier	Arctic Light, Barnette	Band/Orchestra	gwendolyn.brazier@k12northstar.org
James Castleberry	Salcha, Crawford, Woodriver	Band/Orchestra	James.castleberry@k12northstar.org
Sunnifa Deehr	Nordale, Joy, Ladd	Orchestra	sunnifa.deehr@k12northstar.org
Sue Waltman	Denali, Weller, Woodriver	Orchestra	sue.waltman@k12northstar.org
Eileen Gillette	University Park, Nordale, Joy	Band	eileen.gillette@k12northstar.org
Anne Kettle	Hunter, Pearl Creek	Orchestra	anne.kettle@k12northstar.org
Kendi Lesley	Anne Wien, Hunter, Ladd	Band	kendi.lesley@k12northstar.org
Allison Mogenson	Pearl Creek, Denali, Weller	Band	allison.mogenson@k12northstar.org
Taylor Lee (September – December)	Anne Wien, University Park, Two Rivers	Orchestra	taylor.lee@k12northstar.org
Rebecca Menzia (January-May)	Anne Wien, University Park, Two Rivers	Orchestra	rebecca.file@k12northstar.org
Liesl Wietgreffe	Badger, North Pole Elem., Ticasuk Brown	Band	liesl.wietgreffe@k12northstar.org

Non-Traditional

School	Teacher	Phone	Email
Barnette	Melissa Downes	907-456-6072	melissa.downes@k12northstar.org
Chinook	n/a	(907) 452-5020	n/a
Effie	n/a	(907) 474-0958	n/a
Watershed	n/a	(907) 374- 9350	n/a

Teacher Biographies

Elementary School

Francis Lupton teaches general music and choir at **Arctic Light Elementary**. Francis has been an active member of the Fairbanks Music Education and Performing Arts communities for over 30 years. She received her Music Education K-1 degree at University of Alaska Fairbanks and has taught Music for the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District for over twenty-six years. Currently teaching at Arctic Light Elementary School on Fort Wainwright, she is also the Choir Director for the First United Methodist Church, a position she has held for over twenty-five years. She has had the privilege of being State President for the American choral Directors Association and has enjoyed being involved with Fairbanks Light Opera Theater in many ways, from being on the Board of Directors, to on stage, chorus and leading roles, to Vocal and Orchestra Director. Francis has taught voice and guitar to all ages.

Francis has taught at Title One schools for many years, and has had the pleasure of teaching music to ALL students, including many children, as well as adults, with, “extra special” qualities, and learning needs. She feels music is a universal equalizer for all types of learners and a perfect way to expand each and every person’s aesthetic enjoyment!

It was a privilege and an honor for her to be a presenter at Fairbanks’ “Arts Are Exceptional” Institute, this last summer! Last summer’s focus was on teaching SPED teachers how to integrate the Arts in the classrooms. She is a member of the National Association for Music Education and the Alaska Music Educators Association.

Nichole Lawrence teaches general music at **Anderson Elementary School and Crawford Elementary**. Nichole was born in the middle of Michigan and was raised in a small town called Columbiaville. She spent all of her high school career taking voice lessons, performing with choirs, and spending summers at Interlochen Arts Camp. After high school Nichole decided to major in Music Education with a vocal focus at Western Michigan University. While at Western she started and ran an all female A Capella group named Mane Attraction. After college she spent a year teaching music at Coloma Elementary/Intermediate school. After a year teaching in Michigan she decided to accept a job teaching music at Crawford and Anderson Elementary on Eielson Airforce Base. Though new to the community she has already become a member of a local choir and a member of Fairbanks Symphony Chorus.

Meta Bravos teaches general music at **Anne Wien School**. Meta was born in Chicago, Illinois. She began playing violin in 4th grade, and later switched to piano. Through her junior and senior years attending Sullivan High School, she was totally committed to participating in her choir program. After graduating from Sullivan, she attended Harper Junior College, and later, Adams State College, Colorado, graduating in 1976, earning her BMUS in organ performance, and an inspiration to study further in sacred music. Once home again in Chicago, she started the children’s choir at her home church, St. Andrews, and later went back to school, De Paul University, to earn

her teaching certification in music, completing her studies in 1982. Ms. Bravos moved to Alaska in October, 1982, and began her teaching career in Kake, Alaska in 1983. Since then, she has had the pleasure to have taught and lived in the communities of Anchorage, Bethel, Nome, Willow and Fairbanks, as well as a year back in Illinois, with the North Boone Community School District 200, Poplar Grove, Illinois. In Fairbanks, Ms. Bravos sang with the Alaska Chamber Chorale for several years, while also participating on the Boards of Directors of FLOT for three years, and Opera Fairbanks for nine years. She is the elementary general music teacher at Anne Wien Elementary.

Barbara Quaille teaches general music at **Badger Road Elementary School**. Barbara is from the east coast and went to college in Washington DC where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education, followed by a Master of Music in Organ Performance. She spent 30 fulfilling years teaching music and all subjects to various combinations of grades 1-8 in a private education system, along with teaching piano lessons at her home studio, accompanying church choirs, and serving as church organist for various churches. She is now in the second year teaching for the FNSBSD along with being a church pianist/accompanist.

Melissa Downes teaches at **Barnette Magnet School**. An Alaskan resident for more than forty years, Melissa Downes has taught music in Fairbanks schools for more than twenty years and currently teaches general music, piano, musical theatre, hand bells and choir classes at Barnette Magnet School. She earned degrees in Psychology and in Music Education with an emphasis in voice from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks where she studied with Marvella Davis and John Hopkins. She has taught voice through her private studio and occasionally adjudicates for high school Solo and Ensemble Competition, High School All State Honors Choir and High School All Northwest Choir. She has taught music theory and directed choirs at the Fairbanks Summer Fine Arts Camp. She is a member of the American Choral Director's Association (ACDA), the National Association for Music Educators (NAfME) and the Alaska Music Educator's Association (AMEA). A proponent of the choral arts, she founded the Northland Youth Choir in 2000 and the Aurora Women's Chorale in 2011. Today, with her community choirs, she continues her dedication to teaching voice and the art of choral singing. In 2009 Melissa received the Interior Alaska Mayors Youth Arts Award for her efforts to advance the arts among young people. As a music educator her goal is to inspire young music students to recognize that with discipline and perseverance the language of music can be learned and performed throughout our lives.

Connie Oba teaches general music and choir at **Denali Elementary School**. Connie was born and raised in Montana. Her first instrument was the piano, followed by the flute in the school band. It was her high school music teacher who inspired her to pursue singing. She received her B.A. in education from the University of Montana, then toured the western United States as a director/actor for the Missoula Children's Theater. It was during this adventure when she realized she had a knack and a love for teaching music to kids. After moving to Fairbanks in 1990 with her husband, she received her Master of Arts Degree in music (vocal performance). She has taught elementary general music, high school choir, and now resides at Denali Elementary where she teaches K-6 general music. This is her 14th year of full time teaching. Connie has performed with FLOT, FDA, Fairbanks Shakespeare Theater, University of Alaska vocal ensembles, and adjudicates at regional and state music festivals. She is also the music

director at the Fairbanks Lutheran Church, a member of the National Association for Music Education, and is the current president of the Alaska Music Educators Association.

Michael Sarbone teaches general music at **Hunter Elementary**. Michael graduated from Montclair State University with a degree in Music Education, with a concentration in Classical Guitar. He plays in a guitar quintet that participated at the New School Guitar Seminar in the Summer of 2016. Michael is a strong proponent of guitar and vocal education in the classroom.

Doug Lange teaches at **Joy Elementary School**. Doug was born and raised in Missoula, Montana. His love of music began when he opened the pages of a hymn book before he could read just to look at the music. He began playing tenor saxophone in 5th grade and soon joined the school jazz band and continued playing in the highly regarded bands at Sentinel High School. Upon graduation in 1983, he attended the University of Montana in Missoula and graduated with a B.S. in music education from Warner Pacific College in Portland, Oregon. Doug moved to Alaska in 1992 to teach music in Unalaska and later in Nome. He currently teaches music at Joy Elementary where he has taught since 1998.

Doug is active in the performing arts community. Although it is not uncommon to hear him play saxophone, he has also sung in choirs and the chorus of Opera Fairbanks. He is an active board member of Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival and has performed in a variety of its festival ensembles. He is a founding member of the Fairbanks Community Jazz Band and a former director.

Kristina Mulready teaches general music at **Ladd Elementary School**. Kristina was born and raised in Juneau, Alaska. She started singing in preschool and took up piano and trumpet in 5th grade. After graduation from Juneau-Douglas High School in 1988, she attended the University of Alaska-Fairbanks and earned a B.M. in music education in 1993. Ms. Mulready received her first teaching position in February of 1996 in Glennallen, Ak (1 semester only). Since then, she has also taught in Tok-3 years, Haines-3 years, and Fairbanks-14th year, where she teaches today. As an elementary band specialist, her job took her all over the Fairbanks School District teaching at many different schools. Today she teaches general music at Ladd Elementary and is a member of the National Association for Music Education and is a board member of the Alaska Music Educators Association.

Linda Hudson teaches general music at **Nordale Elementary School**. Linda was born and raised in San Diego, CA.

Art and music have always been part of daily life because her mother, who didn't get the call back from Hollywood, sang every day as if she had. Linda learned popular songs, show tunes and musicals and how to sing harmony in the back seat of the family car. Piano lessons began in the 6th grade.

It was when she was a college freshman, doing laundry in Stevens Hall at UAF that a fella heard her singing and said she should try out for the Choir of the North. That was the spark. Joining the choir opened the door to classical music in her life; something she had never heard before! Knees buckled outside the door of James Johnson, the resident pianist. Ms. Hudson sang with the Choir of the North for five years under the direction of Charles Davis. Several small singing groups sprang from choir and Linda performed in a madrigals group and also sang at a local

restaurant in a folk group to earn money for the choir. She began voice lessons with Dr. Suzanne Summerville and embarked on learning her first minuet from an undergrad student. Voice lessons and choir continued as she auditioned for Dr. Johnson's studio for 3 years. Mr. Davis took the choir to tour five countries in Europe in the summer of our country's bicentennial year. She graduated in 1980 with a BM Vocal Performance degree from UAF. Ms. Hudson continued to study with Dr. Johnson for four more years and opened a piano studio on the 4th floor of 520 fifth avenue. She worked as an active member in the Interior Alaska Keyboard Teachers Assn. and was part of Jo Scott's effort to start the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival.

Ms. Hudson moved to CA for a few years and applied herself to earn a K8 teaching certificate from University of California at San Marcos in 1992. She accepted a job at St. Patrick's catholic elementary school in Carlsbad, CA. She also accepted work at two other catholic elementary schools and managed to save enough money to return to Fairbanks in 1997. She was hired by the FNSBSD in 1997.

Nathan Arnold teaches general music at **North Pole Elementary School**. Nathan Arnold was born and raised in Alaska. After graduating from Lathrop High School in 1995 he began studying classical guitar while working at the University of Alaska. In 2004 he left Fairbanks to study music education at the University of Idaho. Upon returning to Fairbanks in 2009 he accepted a position with the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District. He taught at Barnette Magnet School for three years before moving to North Pole, where he currently teaches general music and choir. Mr. Arnold is a guitarist who has performed in a wide variety of styles and venues. From popular styles to classical and jazz, he has been an active participant in making and music where he lives. He teaches guitar at the annual UAF Summer Music Academy and also maintains an active private studio of students in the Fairbanks area, instructing a wide variety of students and styles.

In addition to general music, choir and current trends in music education, his classes offer students the opportunity to study the guitar and ukulele. His guitar students have performed with Orff Ensembles as well as Orchestras. Nathan is a member of the National Association for Music Education and the Alaska Music Educators Association.

Kristi McEwen teaches general music at **Pearl Creek Elementary School**. Kristi teaches general music, pre-k through sixth grade, at Pearl Creek Elementary School in Fairbanks, Alaska. She has been teaching music at the elementary and middle school levels in the FNSB School District since 1999.

Kristi is Level I and Level II Orff-Schulwerk certified and is a member of the Alaska Orff Chapter and the American Orff-Schulwerk Association. She received her Master's in Education Curriculum and Instruction, Integrated Teaching Through the Arts from Lesely University, and her Bachelor's in Music Education from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Born and raised in Alaska, Kristi enjoys sharing her Alaska Native heritage with her students through Alaska Native music, dance, and storytelling. She loves spending time outdoors with her husband, Malcolm, and beautiful son, Luke.

Courtney Miklos teaches general music and PE at **Salcha Elementary School**. Courtney was born and raised in Norfolk, VA. She began playing saxophone in 6th grade and added oboe in high school. After graduating from Maury High School in 1997, she attended Brevard College in

North Carolina where she earned her BA in Music in 2001. From there she moved to University of Alaska Fairbanks, in 2002, and earned her Masters degree in music composition in 2005 and her BM in Education in 2006. Ms. Miklos worked as a substitute teacher in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District until taking the Music/PE teacher position at Salcha Elementary in 2014.

Ms. Miklos is an active performer in the Fairbanks Community. She plays in the Community Band, Community Jazz Band, and Opera Fairbanks.

Melanie Bieniek teaches general music and choir at **Ticasuk Brown Elementary School**. Melanie is a product of the FNSBSD! She has always loved music and because of that she started playing with the 4th grade band at Weller Elementary. She played the baritone (and the later the euphonium) throughout her public school experience. After she graduated from high school she attended the Conservatory of Music at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA. There she earned a Bachelor's of Music in Music Education. After graduation, she began her teaching career in the Linden Unified School District. It was there that she received the New Teacher of the Year award. During her tenure in California she played with the Valley Concert Band, a professional concert band in the San Joaquin Valley. After her fourth year with the Linden School District, she returned to Fairbanks in 2005. Since then, she has been teaching General Music at Ticasuk Brown Elementary School.

She completed her Master's Degree in Curriculum (Arts Integration) through Lesley University in 2013. She currently plays in the Fairbanks Community Band and the University Wind Symphony. Melanie is a member of the National Association for Music Education and is a board member of the Alaska Music Educators Association.

Awards Received: New Teacher of the Year, BP Teacher of Excellence, AMEA Music Advocate of the Year

Emily Rodriguez teaches general music and PE at **Two Rivers Elementary School**. Emily Rodriguez is from Heber City, Ut, where she grew up on a Dairy Farm. She attended Utah State University and graduated in 1999 with a bachelor's of music in vocal performance. She married and Air Force Fighter pilot in 2000 and her world travels began. Emily and her husband have three children, Elena (14), Evelyn (12) and Nicolas (9).

In 2011 Emily returned to school for a teaching certificate. She graduated with her second bachelor's degree in Health and Physical Education from the University of Kansas in May 2014. This is her second year with the FBNSBSD and her second year teaching. Her major instrument is Voice.

Bridget Machida teaches general music at **University Park Elementary**. Bridget Machida was born and raised in western PA. She graduated from Grove City College, Grove City, PA with a bachelors of music education. Her major instrument in college was violin, but she also plays saxophone and piano. About 10 years ago she learned to play the steel drum and was involved with Cold Steel. She took a break from steel drum performing to be with her boys when they were in high school to help be involved all their rehearsals and performances. In 2014 she received her master's degree. The study was in integrating the arts into the general classroom. It was alot of fun and a great learning experience. She likes having her students draw pictures to music, or build music notes out of pipe cleaners, or even create a song out of found sounds.

She has taught in the Fairbanks school system for 30ish years. She says “ish” because she took a year off when her oldest was a baby, then another year off when the boys hit high school. There were also a few years of part time employment. She has taught band, orchestra, and general music in 10 schools and has been teaching general music at University Park Elementary for the past 12 years.

Dennis Degnan teaches general music, choir and guitar at **Weller Elementary**. This is his 42nd year of teaching: two years teaching K through 12 General Music, Choir, & Band, five years teaching Choir & Band, five years teaching Band 4 through 12 in Rochester, Washington, and twenty years teaching middle school band in Port Angeles, Washington. He also hosted a community jazz band for 15 years in that school. Dennis moved to Fairbanks in 2005 and directed the Lathrop High School Band until 2008. While directing Jazz Band, Pep Band, Concert Band, he also coached the rifle team for three years and taught construction academy for five years. He has been a voluntary hunter education instructor for the Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game for eight years. He also toots his own horn with the Fairbanks Jazz Quartet at various venues. He currently plays in University of Alaska and the Fairbanks trumpet ensemble.

Lucille Hackett teaches general music and choir at **Woodriver Elementary**. Lucille hails from Grand Rapids, Michigan. She played oboe and piano in high school and majored in voice at Indiana University, where she earned her BME with a teaching minor in English in 1991. After teaching one year of high school choir and English in Michigan, she moved to Fairbanks, where she has taught General Elementary Music for the past 24 years, including Hunter, Arctic Light, Two Rivers, and currently Woodriver Elementary. In 1996 she earned her M.A. in American Literature from UAF.

Ms. Hackett is a member of the National Association for Music Education and the Alaska Music Educators Association. She has served on both AMEA and Orff Chapter boards, and has performed with FLOT, Fairbanks Opera, and Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival. She is the choral director at University Community Presbyterian Church, and is married with three children.

Rebecca File teaches orchestra at **Anne Wein, University Park and Two Rivers Elementary Schools**. Rebecca has been performing and providing music programming to the Fairbanks community for nearly a decade. She graduated from UAF in 2013 where she was a member of the Alaska Camerata, Choir of the North and a 2013 Concerto Competition winner.

Katie Bates teaches orchestra at **Badger Road, Ticasuk-Brown, and North Pole Elementary Schools**. Katie began playing piano in the fourth grade and added violin between sixth and seventh grade. Violin was her primary instrument at St. Cloud State University. She has a B.S. in comprehensive Music Education from St. Cloud State University in Minnesota and a Master’s in Education from Cambridge College in Massachusetts. Katie has taught for almost forty-four years (next spring it will be almost forty-five years), although it has not all been in the public schools. She has taught orchestra/strings, guitar, piano, general music, and she has taught some of the band instruments as well. Over the years, she has participated in community orchestras, pit orchestras, played in churches, and currently plays viola in the Northern Lights String

Orchestra at UAF. Katie composes music for her students to play at their concerts. One of her sons is working on a DMA in Music Theory and Composition. Two of her former students are now teaching orchestral strings in this school district. She is a member of the National Association for Music Education and the Alaska Music Educators Association.

James Castleberry currently teaches band and orchestra at **Crawford** and **Salcha Elementary Schools**, and teaches band at **Woodriver Elementary**. James Castleberry was born in Jacksonville, FL. He spent his grade school years in Missoula, MT before moving back to Florida at the beginning of his seventh grade year. James discovered clarinet in 5th grade, adding saxophones in ninth grade and percussion in eleventh grade. During his senior year of high school he auditioned for the U.S. Army Band and was accepted. He enlisted in October of 1988 and spent the next twenty-one years performing for Soldiers and Civilians in fourteen different countries. James has performed with many American artists such as Blake Shelton, Wayne Newton, Chris Isaac, and Aaron Tippin, as well as local artists in America, Asia, and Europe. During his twenty-one years of service James completed his Bachelor's degree in History through University of Maryland and, following his retirement in 2009, he completed his teaching certification from the University of Alaska. James was immediately hired to teach band and orchestra at Crawford and Salcha elementary schools and taught in the Fairbanks school district for the next three years. After completing his Master's degree in Instructional Technology in 2013, James moved with his family to Bandon, Oregon where he taught Social Studies and Band at Coquille Jr-Sr High for two years before returning to Fairbanks in 2015. He currently teaches band at Woodriver Elementary and both band and orchestra at Crawford and Salcha Elementary schools. James enjoys performing occasionally with members of the Army Band, Alaska Blaskapelle, and other local musicians.

Sue Waltman teaches orchestra at **Denali, Weller**, and **Woodriver** Elementary Schools. Sue was born in Seattle and raised in Anchorage, Alaska. She started playing the piano in 4th grade and then started playing the cello when her school offered it in 6th grade. She graduated from East Anchorage High school in 1999 to attend Wheaton College in Wheaton, IL to study music education. She then returned home to Anchorage to teach beginning and high school orchestra for the Anchorage School District. After a year, she decided to pursue a degree in music therapy and headed to NYC to study music therapy at New York University. After completing her Masters in music therapy she returned to Anchorage again and began working at a special needs school for the Anchorage School District. After four years she got married and moved to the Fairbanks North Star area and started teaching band and orchestra for the Fairbanks North Star School District.

Ms. Waltman is an active performer and teacher in the Fairbanks community. She has played with the Fairbanks Symphony, directed the cello choir for the Fairbanks Suzuki School of Talent and has a home studio where she is teaching suzuki cello. She is also a board certified music therapist always looking for opportunities to help others through music.

Anne Kettle teaches orchestra **Pearl Creek and Hunter Elementary Schools**. Anne graduated with a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Montana in 2004, and currently is working on a Masters in education at UAF. She has taught K-12 band, choir, general music, and orchestra during the past eleven years. Currently Anne works at **Hunter and Pearl Creek Elementary Schools**. Anne is a vocalist and has been a member of the Alaska Chamber Singers, Fairbanks Opera and Fairbanks Symphony Chorus in the past, though her participation has been limited since the birth of her daughter last February. Her husband works as a researcher at IARC.

Kendi Lesley teaches band at **Ladd, Hunter, and Anne Wien Elementary Schools**. Kendi is from Idaho. She graduated from the University of Idaho after completing a BMUS degree in Music Education: instrumental/vocal. Go Vandals! She moved to Alaska the next year thinking she would teach in Alaska, have an adventure for a couple years and move back to the northwest lower 48. Well, eight years later, she's still here.

Ms. Lesley teaches elementary band to the students at Anne Wien, Hunter, and Ladd elementary schools, and she teaches an afterschool jazz band at Ladd and Hunter. As for her own musical pursuits, Ms. Lesley enjoys collaborating with fellow music teachers and friends on various projects, and this year she has begun singing in the Aurora Women's Chorus. She is a member of the National Association for Music Education and the Alaska Music Educators Association.

Allison Mogenson teaches at **Denali, Weller, and Pearl Creek Elementary Schools**. Allison was born and raised in Chugiak, Alaska. She started playing the trumpet in 6th grade. After graduating from Chugiak High school in 2002 she went on to attend the University of Alaska Fairbanks where she studied under Dr. Karen Gustafson and Rachel Eply and graduated with a Bachelors of Music; Music education k-12, and a Bachelors of Arts in music, she also earned many credits in French and Advanced wilderness leadership. In 2009 she began working for the fnsb school district where she teaches elementary band at Weller, Denali and Pearl creek elementary schools. Each spring she is invited to teach survival and Alaskan skills at Twin bears camp to 5th and 6th graders. Before working for the Fnsbsd Allison worked and taught at the UAF summer music academy for 7 years. She currently plays with the UAF wind symphony and recently (summer 2016) traveled to the international trumpet guild where she performed with a trumpet ensemble under the direction of Dr. Karen Gustafson of Red Deer college in Alberta Canada. Allison is a professional musician and has performed in Italy, Canada, Washington state, Washington D.C, Maine, Virginia, California, and all over Alaska. Each spring Allison has put together the "Elementary invasion" where elementary musicians from around the district get to spend a day at UAF and participate in group lessons, listen to a performance by UAF ensembles, and they even get to sit in with the UAF students and play in the ensemble with them.

Liesl Wietgreffe teaches band at **Badger Road, North Pole, and Ticasuk Brown Elementary Schools**. Liesl attended high school and college in southwest Wisconsin and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 2004. During college she was the drum major for the Marching Pioneers for 2 seasons and won the school's concerto competition on Soprano Saxophone in 2002. Mrs. Wietgreffe has taught in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District for 12 years as a music teacher at Hunter Elementary, Randy Smith Middle School, West Valley High School and the three schools she currently teaches at. She has taught band, jazz

band, choir, steel pan, orchestra, general music and world drumming. She received the Yale Distinguished Music Educator of the Year Award in 2013, was named to School Band and Orchestra Magazine's "50 Directors Who Make a Difference" list in 2012 and has been nominated for the BP Teacher of Excellence award. Mrs. Wietgreffe enjoys accompanying her church choir, cooking and having jam sessions with her family in her free time. She is married and has 3 daughters aged 10, 8 and 5.

Eileen Gillette teaches band at **University Park, Joy and Nordale Elementary Schools**. Eileen was born in Ft. Benning, Georgia and grew up as an Army brat. She began to play the flute in 6th grade and became involved in band and choir at Lathrop High School when her family moved to Fairbanks, Alaska. After high school, Eileen began her Music Education degree at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and completed it at Kansas University in 2007. After moving back to Alaska, she began working for the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District as an elementary band and orchestra teacher. Currently in her 10th year of teaching, she teaches band at Joy, Nordale, and University Park Elementary. Over the years she has enjoyed playing in the Fairbanks Community Band, Fairbanks Flutists, FLOT pit orchestra, and singing in the Aurora Women's Chorale. She is currently working on her Masters in Education with a concentration in Curriculum and Instruction. She is married with a lovely daughter, Kiaya, and two dogs.

Gwendolyn P. Brazier teaches band and orchestra at **Barnette Magnet School and Arctic Light Elementary School**. Gwendolyn began teaching for the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District in 2009, at Salcha Elementary School. Over the last several years she has added a Kindergarten violin program to each of her schools and a musical theater class at Barnette Magnet. She is the after school advisor for the West Valley High School Thespian Drama Troupe #628 since 2011. For the last few years she has stage directed for North Pole High School as well. She runs the choir club at Arctic Light Elementary School and in the past has even taught a ukulele class for K-3 students and a hip-hop dance club.

Her talents do not end in the classroom. Ms. Brazier is an avid Fairbanks arts community supporter and performer. She has performed as a bassist in the Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra and as a guest soloist and choral member of Choir of the North and the Alaska Camerata. She has directed and performed in numerous shows throughout the Fairbanks theater community. She has worked and performed with the Fairbanks Drama Association, Fairbanks Light Opera Theatre, Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre, UAF Theater and Film, Fairbanks Opera as well as the University of Alaska Student Drama Association. Currently, she sits on the board of directors for Fairbanks Light Opera Theatre in the position of Past President and performs with a popular 70's funk band.

Middle School

Katrina Nore teaches band, choir and orchestra at **Ben Eielson Jr High-** (See High School Section for bio).

Vanessa Jackson teaches band and choir at **North Pole Middle School**. Vanessa Jackson was born and raised in Texas. She began playing piano at the age of six and added clarinet in sixth grade and oboe in seventh grade. She earned her Bachelor of Music from the University of Texas in San Antonio in 1995 with an emphasis in piano performance. She graduated from Concordia University in 2015 with her Master's in Education with a focus on Educational Leadership. She began her teaching career in 1995 in Alvin, Texas. She has taught primarily at schools with a high population of military students including Killeen ISD near Fort Hood and Northside ISD near Fort Sam Houston prior to coming to North Pole Middle School to teach in 2012. She had award winning bands and orchestras while teaching in Texas. She currently teaches band and choir.

She has participated in several musical groups outside her school purview having worked as a rehearsal accompanist for Fairbanks Light Opera Theater, a bass player and substitute pianist for her church, and the Music Advocacy Committee. She is also the current director of the Wind Ensemble as sponsored by the Fairbanks Youth Orchestras.

Vanessa has won a variety of honors over the years. She was one of 36 pianists from around the world selected in summer of 1995 to study at the Rachmaninov School, the 2015 Interior Mayor's Award for Music Advocacy, her band has performed at the Alaska Music Educator's Conference, and she has presented at the AMEA conference in 2013 and 2015 in Alaska. She feels her biggest accomplishment is watching her students find an authentic sense of self-esteem and accomplishment through their musical pursuits while learning to love to make music. She is a member of the National Association for Music Education and the Alaska Music Educators Association.

Todd Wienke teaches orchestra and drama at **North Pole Middle School**. Todd was born in Buffalo, NY and grew up in western New York state. He studied classical guitar at SUNY Fredonia School of Music with James Piorkowski, earning a bachelor's in Instrumental Music Education in 1998. By 2005, he had also earned a master's degree in Educational Technology from Buffalo State University and was well into a career that included positions at Baker Hall in Buffalo and Silver Creek Central School. This is Todd's 17th year as a teacher and his 4th year in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, currently as Orchestra Director at North Pole Middle School.

Todd directed *Lizzie* for FLOT and has been music director for their production of *RENT* as well as FDA's *Buddy Holly Story*, playing guitar for each of these and for FLOT's *Shrek* and FDA's *Ring of Fire*.

Bobb Lockwood teaches band, choir, orchestra, guitar, jazz band & world drumming at **Randy Smith Middle School**. Robert (Bobb) was born in Central Wisconsin and raised in the suburbs of Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN. From a very young age, music was always an important part of Bobb's life. After attending St. Anthony Village High School, he earned an Associate of Arts degree from Anoka Ramsey Community College before attending the University of Wisconsin - River Falls, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education. Mr. Lockwood moved to Alaska in 2008 to take a job with the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District. He is currently teaching band, orchestra, jazz, choir, guitar, and world music at Randy Smith

Middle School, where he has been working for the last 9 years. Mr. Lockwood is an active performer in the Fairbanks Community. He has played euphonium in the Fairbanks community band, guitar/mandolin for the Fairbanks Light Opera Theater, and is currently playing tuba with the UAF Symphonic band. Mr. Lockwood was selected for the BP Teacher of Excellence award in 2013.

Campbell Longworth teaches band, orchestra, choir and jazz band at **Ryan Middle School**. Campbell was born and raised in Petersburg Alaska and moved to Fairbanks in the fall of 2008 to attend UAF. He studied trumpet and earned his Bachelor of Music, Music Education in 2015 and is currently in his second year of teaching. Campbell currently participates in many community groups including The Fairbanks Community Band, the Fairbanks Community Jazz Band, North Star Strings, and the local Shape Note group. In the past he has participated, both onstage, and under it, in various local productions through FLOT and Opera Fairbanks. He also teaches private lessons and enjoys composing and arranging music.

Simon Traynor teaches band, orchestra and choir at **Tanana Middle School**. Since receiving his first trumpet at age 9, Simon continues learning and practicing new instruments whenever a chance is presented. His first home was among the forests and rolling hills of Pierce County, WI. After graduating high school in the Cheese Curd Capital, Simon studied music education at the University of Wisconsin in River Falls where he stayed near to the Northwoods, but enjoyed a close proximity to the amazing music scene of the Twin Cities. Simon moved to Alaska and was incredibly surprised by Fairbanks for two reasons: the much colder winters were much more tolerable without the wind or wet, and he found a high value placed on music and the arts by the community of Fairbanks. As a teacher in Fairbanks he has taught band, orchestra, choir and jazz. Most of his musical attention is concentrated on the big band music of Fairbanks Community Jazz and in Celtic fiddling styles found in of the many festivals and sessions in the area.

High School

Katrina Nore teaches band, choir and orchestra at **Ben Eielson Jr/Sr High**. Katrina was born in Fairbanks, and grew up in North Pole. She began playing violin in 4th grade and switched to viola as a senior in high school. She attended college at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and studied viola with Dr. Kathy Butler-Hopkins. Miss Nore studied with the same violin/viola professor as her mother, a retired music teacher, Mrs. Barbara Nore. She earned a Bachelor of Music Education in 2013. She teaches band, orchestra, choir, world music, and guitar at Ben Eielson Jr/Sr High School. This is her second year at Eielson and in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, and is in her third year teaching. She previously taught in Seward, Alaska for the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District. Miss Nore plays viola in the Fairbanks symphony and enjoys spending time outdoors in her free time. She is a member of the National Association for Music Education and the Alaska Music Educators Association.

Luke Nielsen teaches band and orchestra at **North Pole High School**. Luke graduated from Berklee College of music in 2016 with a B.M. in Film Scoring and Songwriting. He began playing his principle instrument, the trumpet, in 2002 in the FNSBSD School district. Luke performs with the Fairbanks Symphony and has recorded for various film, movie projects produced in LA.

Bruce Hanson teaches choir at **North Pole High School**. Bruce graduated from the University of Wisconsin- La Crosse in 1987 with degrees in choral music, general music and social studies with a minor in psychology. He spent his first professional years teaching history, psychology and sociology in Minnesota and Wisconsin. After moving to Alaska he spent four years as a company member in Juneau's Perseverance Theatre, serving as an actor, composer and music director before returning to Fairbanks.

Mr. Hanson has been the choral director at North Pole High School for the past twenty years and received his Master's Degree in Musical Theatre at the University of Alaska- Fairbanks in 2010. He is quite active in the community arts scene, having performed with Fairbanks Light Opera Theater, Fairbanks Drama Association, Fairbanks Shakespeare Theater and Palace Theater for nearly thirty years. He is a member of the National Association for Music Education and the Alaska Music Educators Association.

Tristan Hovest teaches band and orchestra at **Lathrop High School**. Tristan was raised in Juneau, Alaska in a rich culture of arts. Tristan started his musical career as a drummer in an african hand drumming ensemble at age 5. He joined public school music in the 6th grade as a percussionist, but quickly picked up the trumpet. In high school he learned most of the band instruments and played in all of the bands at Juneau Douglas High School. In addition to band, Tristan sang in the JDHS choirs and played in the pit orchestras for their musicals. During high school Tristan also became a member of the Juneau Symphony, which he has performed with for the last 15 years. He started his college career at the University of Idaho in Moscow, where he performed with many of the ensembles. He transferred to University of Alaska Fairbanks where he finished his degree in Music Education in 2014. Upon graduation of UAF, Tristan started his teaching career at Lathrop High School as the director of bands. In 2016 Tristan took over the Lathrop Orchestra program, and now teaches Band and Orchestra at Lathrop. Outside of school Tristan performs with many local bands, including jazz combos and the 70's funk band Shagg. He is a member of the National Association for Music Education and the Alaska Music Educators Association.

Carolyn Soderlund teaches choir and guitar at **Lathrop High School**. Carolyn has been teaching in the district for 27 years. She has taught at Tanana Middle School, Two Rivers School.

She has an undergraduate degree from Eastern Washington University, she has done graduate work at Duke University, Texas Women's University, UAF, and Vandercook School of Music. She is a vocalist and has performed at the Palace Theatre and Malemute Saloon and with the Choir of the North.

As choir director at Lathrop High School, she has taken students to New York City many times. Her choirs have performed at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and the Washington Mall Monument with America Sings! They have also performed in festivals in California at Disney Land receiving superior ratings. Carolyn has organized many local festivals for the district over the years bringing in clinicians John Jacobson, Mac Huff, Roger Emerson and Kirby Shaw. She was awarded AMEA's "Alaska Music Educator of the Year" at the All State Music Festival in Anchorage in November, 2016.

Carolyn has been married 32 years and has four children, three of whom have graduated from Lathrop High School and one who is currently a student at Lathrop. She is a member of the National Association for Music Education, is a board member of the Alaska Music Educators Association, and is the current president of the Alaska Choral Directors Association.

Trevor Adams teaches orchestra at **West Valley High School**. He is a composer, violist, and music educator with a Bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. During his time at UAF he has played with The Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra, The Arctic Chamber Orchestra, The Northern Lights String Orchestra, Opera Fairbanks, and Fairbanks Light Opera Theater. He has been an intern for the UAF String Fling, was the former coach of the North Star Strings, and taught the Fairbanks Youth String Orchestra during the 2015 - 2016 season. He is a current member of the newly formed Nanook String Quartet. In February 2015, he put on a recital of his own compositions in which he conducted and performed, and in May 2015, his original score for The Muse was premiered at UAF's "Thaw Out Film Festival". Trevor has attended the 2013 American String Teachers Association National Conference in Providence, Rhode Island, the 2012 and 2014 Alaska Music Educators Association Conferences, and attended the 2014 Fairbanks Suzuki Institute while taking the Violin/Viola Book 1 training course. In both the 2011- 2012 and 2014-2015 academic years, Trevor received the Outstanding Music Major Award from the College of Liberal Arts for his hard work and dedication to the program. Currently, he is working on a bachelor of arts in music composition and a film studies minor at UAF.

Lucas Clouten teaches band, guitar, and steel drums at **West Valley High School**. Lucas grew up in Fairbanks and attended schools in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, where he started playing trombone in fourth grade. After graduating from Lathrop High School, he attended the University of Alaska Fairbanks, graduating with a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education in 2004. He spent his first year teaching band and choir at Ben Eielson Jr./Sr. High School before moving to North Pole High School, where he taught orchestra, photography, yearbook, and band for ten years. Mr. Clouten performs in the Fairbanks Community Band and the Fairbanks Symphony when he can, helps conduct and sing on a regular basis at church, and has been music director for a few FLOT shows, most recently *Once Upon A Mattress* this past spring. He is a member of the National Association for Music Education and is a board member for the Alaska Music Educators Association.

Elementary School

Class Time:

In most buildings, elementary general music classes meet 2-3 times per week on a rotating schedule. These specialist service Pre-K through 6th grade students depending on each school's classroom needs. In addition, these teachers provide music instruction to special education students, both mainstreamed and self-contained. None of the charter schools in our district receive music instruction from a certified music educator. All other elementary schools receive instruction from highly qualified music professionals who have at least a bachelor's degree, full state certification, and have demonstrated competency in music. General music teachers are encouraged to coordinate several concerts a year in order to showcase student development, provide performance opportunities, and engage the community in musical activities.

The following chart shows the amount of class time given to student at each elementary school.

School	Class Length	Times Per Week	FTE
Anderson	30 min	2	.5
Anne Wien	40 min	2	1.0
Arctic Light	30 min	2	1.0
Badger Road	30 min	2	1.0
Barnette Magnet	55 min	4 (if taken as elective each quarter)	.5
Chinook Charter	0 min	0	0
Crawford	30 min	2	.5
Denali	30 min	2x (K, 4-6) 3x (1-3)	1.0
Fairbanks B.E.S.T.	0 min	0	0
Hunter	40 min	2	1.0
Joy	35 min	2.5 (rotating schedule on Fridays)	1.0
Ladd	35 min	2	1.0
Nordale	35 min	2	1.0
North Pole	30 min	2	1.0
Pearl Creek	35 min (Pre-K 30 min)	2	1.0
Salcha	25 min(K-1) 40 min(2-6)	2	.5
Ticasuk	30 min	2 (3 times if class receives music enrichment)	1.0
Two Rivers	45 min	2	.4

University Park	30 min	2	1.0
Watershed Charter	0 min	0	0
Weller	30 min	2	1.0
Woodriver	35 min	2	1.0

Student Contact:

Total Elementary School Enrollment –7,697

Total Elementary School Music Enrollment –7,155

Average Elementary School Music Enrollment – 93%

The following chart shows enrollment at each elementary school.

School	Total Enrollment	Music Enrollment	Percentage of School
Anderson Elem	243	243	100
Anne Wien Elem	386	386	100
Arctic Light Elem	536	536	100
Badger Road Elem	478	478	100
Barnette Magnet	330	164	49
Chinook Charter	112	0	0
Crawford Elem	298	298	100
Denali Elem	378	378	100
Fairbanks B.E.S.T.	110	0	0
Hunter Elem	357	357	100
Joy Elem	391	391	100
Ladd Elem	496	496	100
Nordale Elem	354	354	100
North Pole Elem	490	490	100
Pearl Creek Elem	506	506	100
Salcha Elem	73	73	100
Ticasuk Elem	498	498	100
Two Rivers	82	82	100
University Park	505	505	100
Watershed Charter	154	0	0
Weller	452	452	100
Woodriver	468	468	100

Elementary Instrumental Music

Class Time:

The opportunity to learn to play band or orchestra instruments is available to all interested elementary students in 4th, 5th, and 6th grade. Elementary instrumental music students meet with their instrument teacher with other students 2 times per week. Elementary band and orchestra teachers are itinerant and are spread out to two or three schools. They are responsible for creating a working schedule for seeing students at each of their schools. None of the charter schools in our district receive music instruction from a certified music educator. All other elementary schools receive instruction from highly qualified music professionals who have at least a bachelor's degree, full state certification, and have demonstrated competency in music. Instrumentalists teach students specifically how to play music on their chosen or assigned instruments individually and as a group. These students learn to read music and must learn to be able to play independently while also staying together and following a director. Generally elementary instrumental specialists facilitate two concerts per year at each school: one winter concert and one spring concert, which is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate growth in skill.

The following chart shows the amount of class time given to student at each elementary school.

Student Contact:

Total Elementary School Enrollment –7,697

Total Elementary School Music Enrollment – 1,520

Average Elementary School Instrumental Music Enrollment – 19.7%

The following chart shows instrumental enrollment at each elementary school.

School	Band Enrollment	Orchestra Enrollment	Percentage of School
Anne Wien Elem	37	38	19
Arctic Light Elem	61	47	20
Badger Road Elem	42	44	18
Barnette Magnet	37	35	22
Crawford Elem (3-6)	56	35	31
Denali Elem	37	49	23
Hunter Elem	39	29	19
Joy Elem	42	41	21
Ladd Elem	46	48	19
Nordale Elem	47	37	24
North Pole Elem	48	45	19
Pearl Creek Elem	63	56	24

Salcha Elem	14	11	34
Ticasuk Elem	39	45	17
Two Rivers	not offered	11	13 (Orchestra only)
University Park	68	50	23
Weller	36	73	24
Woodriver	53	61	24

*Note: the percentage is out of TOTAL school enrollment. Band and orchestra are only for grades 4/5/6 (or 4/5 for North Pole schools). We will try to get a percentage of 4/5/6 enrollment for future reports.

Curriculum:

The FNSBSD Music Curriculum was adopted in 2017. Due to the restructuring of the curriculum review process, there is no scheduled revision known at this time. The members of the 2016 curriculum review committee were Nathan Arnold, Katie Bates, Lucile Hackett, Kendi Lesley, Bobb Lockwood, Courtney Miklos, and Liesl Wietgreffe. Elementary music teachers base their curricula according to best practices, materials based on their professional assessment, and alignment with district, state, and national music standards. The Making Music curriculum was adopted during the last curriculum revision and is being used at all grade levels. The curriculum includes Orff-Schulwerk and Kodaly principles, among others.

Co-Curricular and Extra Curricular Activities

Co-Curricular activities for Elementary Music Classes include at least two performances per year. These performances and other co-curricular activities at the elementary level represent paths to independent musicianship and opportunities to share musical growth with the community.

One of the highlights for the entire community is the series of elementary winter concerts held over several weeks each December. If you have an opportunity to attend one of these concerts, you will see school gymnasiums filled beyond capacity with friends and family participating in this important tradition. These and all concerts support the curriculum by showing parents the musical skills and concepts that students are learning in music class. These performances also meet the national performances standard for the arts.

A comprehensive look at the co-curricular and extra-curricular music opportunities such as after school, before school, or lunch time music classes falls outside of the scope of this report, but will be examined in future reports. A majority of elementary music programs offer some sort of co-curricular or extra-curricular opportunities such as percussion ensemble, talent show, musical theatre, guitar, ukulele, band, jazz band, choir, and orchestra before, during or after school. It is not comprehensively known if or how teachers are being compensated for the time spent providing these extra-curricular opportunities.

Beginning band and orchestra are offered throughout all non-charter elementary schools. Band and Orchestra are offered starting in the fourth grade and continues through

elementary school. Beginning Band and Orchestra are currently offered in several capacities including: during students' lunch and recess, pull-out from core classes, or a pull-out from General Music Class. While this report is limited to looking at only enrollment numbers, the goal of future reports will be to look more closely at additional music opportunities being offered at each school and how they are scheduled.

Middle School

Class Time:

Music is offered at every traditional middle school in the FNSBSD. The three traditional middle schools in Fairbanks each have one full-time music director who teaches all the music classes offered at that site. In North Pole the position is split between two people. All of these schools offer choir, band, and orchestra in addition to any other classes such as jazz band, guitar, or enrichment classes. These professionals are responsible for choosing music for performances and for growing students' skills. For a middle school music director in the FNSBSD, there are several different classes for which to prepare. In fact, rarely is a class duplicated in their day, which equates to usually at least five different preps in a day. Middle school music classes are taught by highly qualified music professionals with at least a bachelor's degree in music education, full state certification, and has demonstrated competency in music by passing the Praxis II test.

The following chart shows the amount of class time given to students at each site in addition to the percentage of students participating in music at those schools.

Middle School	Total Enrollment	Music Enrollment	Percentage of School	Minutes Per Week	Classes Per Week
Barnette (K-8)	416*	109	26%	220	4
North Pole	655*	205	31%	270	5
Randy Smith	328*	123(F)/145(Sp)	38%/44%	250	4
Ryan	365*	123	34%	250	4
Tanana	463*	146	32%	250	4

*Numbers from 2014-2015 State of Alaska Report Card to the Public-School Level

Student Contact:

Total Middle School Enrollment – 2,227

Total Middle School Music Enrollment – 706 (Fall) 728(Spring)

Average Middle School Music Enrollment – 32.3%

Curriculum:

The music repertoire for each middle school group is unique to the group, so the teachers construct their curricula individually, according to best practices, student skill levels, materials based on their professional assessment, and in alignment with district, state, and national music standards.

Class time involves rehearsing music for upcoming concerts, contests, and other performances. Additionally, a variety of individual tests, projects, and other forms of assessment designed by the music teacher are utilized to promote student learning.

These assessments often include:

- Playing tests -- playing alone and/or with others from selected repertoire
- Theory tests -- demonstrating understanding of technical elements of music and literacy
- Performances -- events like concerts, competitions, and community performances
- Class Participation -- bringing instrument, music, pencil, and demonstrating competency and effort on a daily basis
- Practice Charts
- Self-Assessments

Classes Offered:

The following chart shows the classes that are being offered at each middle school site.

Middle School	Per. 0 (Before or After School)	Per. 1	Per. 2	Per. 3	Per. 4	Per. 5	Per. 6	Per. 7
North Pole	Percussion Ensemble 6	6 th /7 th Choir 26	6 th Band 31	8 th Band 30	8 th Choir 30		7 th Band 23	Advisory 21
	Handbells 11 Jazz Band 11	6 th Drama 25	6 th Orch.	8 th Orch. 15	8 th Drama 30		7 th Orch 30	Advisory 20
Randy Smith	Jazz Band 18	Orch. 32	Beg. Guitar S1:8 World Music S2:17	Concert Band 51	Beg. Guitar S1:14 Choir S2:27			Advisory 20
Ryan		Choir 27		Int. Orch. 33	Adv Orch 21	Varsity Band 19	Concert Band 23	Jazz Band 33
Tanana			Adv. Concert Orch. 25	Concert Band 26	Varsity Band 20	Choir 18	Int. Concert Orch. 24	Advisory 14
Barnette Magnet					Beg/Int. Band 4 th -8 th : 21	Beg./Int. Orch. 4 th -8 th : 27	Musical Theater (6 th -8 th) Q1: 41	Adv Symphony 5 th – 8 th :20 (Q2-4 Only)

Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities:

Middle school music directors provide our students and communities with musical experiences such as participation in concerts (three or more per year) as well as opportunities to hear live music in said concerts. They also do extra activities like travelling to state or regional festivals, and engendering service learning projects like performing at community functions or other schools.

High School

Class Time:

The following chart shows the percentage of students participating in music and the amount of class time given to students at each high school.

High School	Total Enrollment	Music Enrollment	Percentage of School	Minutes Per Week	Classes Per Week
Ben Eielson Jr./Sr.	347*	53	15%	256	4
Hutchison	404*	0	0%	256	4
Lathrop	1047*	295	28%	256	4
North Pole	728*	194	27%	256	4
West Valley	1027*	164	16%	256	4

*Numbers from 2014-2015 State of Alaska Report Card to the Public-School Level

Student Contact:

Total High School Enrollment –3553

Total High School Music Enrollment – 706

Average High School Music Enrollment – 19.8%

Numbers removing Hutchinson from the equation:

Total High School Enrollment –3149

Total High School Music Enrollment – 706

Average High School Music Enrollment – 22.4%

Curriculum:

The music repertoire for each high school group is unique to the group, so the teachers construct their curricula individually, according to best practices, student skill levels, materials based on their professional assessment, and in alignment with district, state, and national music standards.

Class time involves rehearsing music for upcoming concerts, contests, and other performances. Additionally, a variety of individual tests, projects, and other forms of assessment designed by the music teacher are utilized to promote student learning.

These assessments often include:

- Playing tests -- playing alone and/or with others from selected repertoire

- Theory tests -- demonstrating understanding of technical elements of music and literacy
- Performances -- events like concerts, competitions, and community performances
- Class Participation -- bringing instrument, music, pencil, and demonstrating competency and effort on a daily basis
- Practice Charts
- Self-Assessments

Classes Offered:

The following chart shows which classes are offered at each high school during each period of the day included zero hour and after school.

The numbers under each group are the number of students in that group. S1 and S2 mean semester 1 and semester 2 respectively.

School	Per. 0	Per. 1	Per. 2	Per. 3	Per. 4	Per. 5	Per. 6
Ben Eielson Jr./Sr.		World Music (10)	Choir (9)	Orchestra (25)	Guitar/Orchestra (10/1)	Prep	Band (17)
Hutchison	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lathrop	Jazz Band (16)		Symphonic Band (43)	Concert Band (19)		Chamber Orchestra 30	Concert Orchestra 21
		Mixed Choir (43)	Concert Choir (32)	Show Choir (Meets Mon. nights and Tues/Thurs during lunch) (20)	Guitar S1: 20 S2: 12	Treble Choir (37)	
North Pole		Orchestra 24	Band 15	Beg Guitar 5			
	Jazz Choir 16	Treble Choir 35	Mixed Choir 45	Men's Choir 18	Concert Choir 36		
West Valley	Jazz Band 13	S1:Prep S2: Beg/Int Guitar (21/7)	S1: Prep S2: Symphonic Band (28)	S1: Concert Band (27) S2: Beg/Adv Steel Drums (10/10)	S1: Beg/Adv Steel Drums (10/11) S2: Prep	S1: Symphonic Band (27) S2: Prep	S1: Beg. Guitar (26) S2: Concert Band (26)
					Concert Orchestra S1:20 S2:18	Chamber Orchestra S1: 21 S2: 21	Concert Orchestra S1:26 S2:26

Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities:

High school music directors provide our students and communities with musical experiences such as participation in concerts (three or more per year) as well as opportunities to hear live music in said concerts. They also do extra activities like travelling to state or regional festivals,

and engendering service learning projects like performing at community functions or other schools.

State/National Music Awards

The existence of the ASAA/First National Bank Alaska All –State Music Festival enables outstanding high school musicians to participate as members of select statewide, band, choral, and orchestral music ensembles and promotes the highest standards of musicianship. The goal of this activity is to foster and inspire technical achievement, aesthetic understanding, and critical listening skills that allow for the culmination of a final creative musical performance of the highest artistic level.

Adopted by the All-State Music Festival Committee on February 10, 1996

Ben Eielson:

Autumn Pryor

Lathrop

Jake Carlson
Jenna Watson
Victor Zhou
Mikey Jackson
Camden Kegley
Christina Nuss
Maren Osborne
Allie Plachinski
Dane Soderlund
Desmond Solis
Addie Clarke
Amara Hackett
Leah Heideloff
Tristyn Meath
Jacob Batchelder
Collin Rogers
Lilian Sears
Jessie Doble

North Pole

Morgen Frazer
Amber Denham
Taylor Hendricks
Lindsay Moisan
Jeremiah Scott
Lafi Skipps
Leah Dustin
Selina Dykes
Mary (Katie) Hunt
Ashley Roberts
Brittany Roberts
Amy Stefan
Tiana Taylor
Lauren VanSickle

West Valley

Alexander Apicella-Adams
Rosalee Bertram
Stella Bettisworth

Tiernan Brenner-Gelvin

Lucas Candelaria

Andrew Cox

Sydney Cox

Brian Ely

Ari Endestad

Clara Hedman

Aiden Johns

Van Levey

Else Mayo

Laura Mayo

Monique McGraw

Sophia Prichard

Tanner Sprinkle

Taylor Templeton

Sebastian Boice-Washburn

Jesse Bryant

Brons Gerrish

Ruth Heidel

Rebecca Kahoe

Matthew Wrobel

All-Northwest Ensembles are the highest audition performance groups for the Northwest region. They consist of students from Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming. Students are selected through an audition process and placed into the appropriate groups.

Lathrop

Addie Clarke
Amara Hackett
Mikey Jackson
Camden Kagley
Allie Plachinski
Dane Soderlund
Katrina Rhynard
Desmond Solis
Victor Zhou

North Pole

Jarom Alix
Brandon Antesberger
Leah Dustin
Taylor Hendricks
Lindsay Moisan
Ashley Roberts
Brittany Roberts
Morgen Frazer

West Valley

Alexander Apicella-Adams
Brian Ely
Van Levey
Sophia Prichard

The goal of **State Solo and Ensemble** is to foster and inspire technical achievement, aesthetic understand and critical listening skills. Students prequalify for participation by receiving a “1” or “Superior” rating at a qualifying regional festival. The students below received a “Superior” rating at regional festival and were therefore qualified to participate in Alaska State Solo and Ensemble Festival in Anchorage in 2016.

Ben Eielson:

Tayana Kincaid
 Timothy Albert Kline
 Jolie Lucas
 Emma Pearson
 Autumn Pryor
 Camille Young

Kyla Lange
 Jacob Lotze
 Malinda Malenfant
 Grace Martin
 Alicia Mazion
 Tristyn Meath
 Rose Mercer
 Christina Mondelli
 Emily Monicken
 Anabelle Neiningen
 Christina Nuss
 Courtney O’Hearn
 Maren Osborne
 Molly Parent
 Chantae Peterson
 Allison Plachinski
 Enoch Porter
 Jillian Richardson
 Jason Riggs
 Collin Rogers
 Lily Sears
 Mary Shier
 Brianna Sperry
 Sheryl Swarner
 Zach Tolver
 Mikayla Triplehorn
 Vance Underwood
 Kylee Walker
 Shauna Walker
 Jenna Watson
 Zach Wellborn
 Heather Wolney

Taylor Armstrong
 Brandon Antesberger
 Shahibia Bhattarai
 Kayli Brueninger
 Sarah Callins
 Marshal Chace
 Allison Cline
 Erica Dahl
 Taylor DeAngelis
 Selina Dykes
 Meghan Fowler
 Morgen Frazer
 Clarence Frontana
 Vincent Frontana
 Cynthia Frueh
 Meghan Geese
 Margaret Gilbert
 Trish Marie Hanks
 Brenson Hardy
 Madison Harvey
 Taylor Hendricks
 Lauri Ketzler
 Troy Lumpkim
 Lindsay Moisan
 Ambyr O’Neill
 Samantha Perry
 Augustin Pineda
 Izzi Rice
 Ashley Roberts
 Brittany Roberts
 John Robinson
 Christopher Sanderson
 Lafi Skipps
 Michael Spencer
 Samantha Sponsel
 Joe Stefan
 Jasmine Study
 Gabe Taylor

Lathrop:

Emmanuel Aguilar
 Kevin Alexander
 Abigail Arens
 Ellie Barnum
 Kelsey Barnum
 Jacob Batchelder
 Mauryn Bruce
 Jake Carlson
 Matthew Chairez
 Maya Cheydluer
 Addie Clarke
 Bradie Cline
 Clarissa Davis
 Naomi Dershin
 Emily Eaton
 Aedan Fish
 Karli Fitzgerald
 Ellie Flynn
 William Glass
 Amara Hackett
 Kyle Hackett
 Margaret Harrison
 Isaac Hendrickson
 Athena Hills
 Christopher Hopkins
 Mikey Jackson
 Camden Kegley
 Marcelo Ketzler-Lopez
 Kayla Kurapati

North Pole:

Jarom Alix
 Logan Alix
 Kiara Anderson

Isaiah Todd
Lauren VanSickle
Elizabeth Vincent
Adara Wyman
Sydney Yalch-Butler

West Valley

Alex Apicella-Adams
Hope Austin
Josee Beauchamp
Rosalee Bertram
Sabastian Boice
Vinnie Caciari
Lucas Candelaria
David Chen
Gideon Cole
Sydney Cox
Helen Danielson
Jessie Doble
Robin Eagleton
Paige Ellis
Brian Ely
Anja Endestad
Stefano Fochesatto
Tana Fudge
Madeline Gayle
Brons Gerrish
Symcha Gillette
Vanya Gillette
Sadie Glenn
Clara Hedman
Ruth Heidel
Joey Hogenson
Neeshi Hullavarad
Rebecca Kahoe
Anya Kurzbard
Drew Lawrason
Mac Levy
Van Levy
Pearl Lockwood
Case Madison
Shayna Matson
Laura Mayo

Nikki McGraw
Choochy Monson
Yuki Nagaoka
Sophie Prichard
Gail Pyne
Katrina Rhynard
Olivia Rockwell
Ian Rodriguez
Terra Rovzar
Brian Seeman
Andrew Sheets
Kelsey Slater
Tanner Sprinkle
Enigma Swan Adams
Blake Swarthout
Taylor Templeton
Marcos Toniolo
Kruger Vanborg
Brandon Vanlandingham
Conlin Vargas
Jace Walker
Faith Widman
Roan Willson
Addie Willsrud
Henry Winsor
Daniel Woolf
Matthew Wrobel
Sam Youngblood
Hayley Zacheis

Command Performance Awards 2016: Command Performances are students who are nominated by State Adjudicators as the best in their section.

CELLO HAYLEY
ZACHEIS, West Valley HS

FLUTE ENSEMBLE FLUTE
ENSEMBLE, West Valley HS
Sadie Glenn, Hope Austin, Vanya Gillette, Pearl Lockwood, Olivia Rockwell, Faith Widman,
Robin Eagleton, Daniel Woolf

HIGH STRINGS (Violin) ANJA
ENDESTAD, West Valley HS

MIXED INSTRUMENT ENSEMBLE
OBOE/PERCUSSION, West Valley HS
JOEY HOGENSON (Oboe) & ANDREW SHEETS (Percussion)

MUSICAL THEATER SOLO (Saturday #3) KATRINA RHYNARD,
West Valley HS

STRING ENSEMBLE STRING
ENSEMBLE, West Valley HS
HAYLEY ZACHEIS, MAC LEVEY, VAN LEVEY, MARCOS TONIOLO
ANJA ENDESTAD, SYDNEY COX, JOSEE BEAUCHAMP

LARGE VOCAL ENSEMBLE (Saturday) MIXED VOCAL ENSEMBLE, EX: Lathrop HS
& Hutchison
Ellie Barnum, Ainsley Benson, Kelsey Barnum, Christina Nuss, Tristyn Meath, Maya
Cheydleur, Kayla Kurapati, Emily Eaton, Kyle Hackett, Enoch Porter, Zachary Welborn,
Vance Underwood, Camden Kegley, Matthew Chairez

Good Things

Elementary:

All traditional elementary school students receive general music classes twice per week.

All non-charter elementary school students, regardless of socioeconomic status, in the FNSBSD have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument in 4th through 6th grade and participate in a band or orchestra.

Students have performance opportunities as part of those ensembles. Student performances create positive school culture and engage the community in school activities. These performances provide for personalized learning and group cooperation and collaboration.

Some elementary schools offer choir in grades 3-6.

Some elementary schools offer jazz band after school for students in grades 4-6.

Students are given access to instrumental music instruction during the school day making it equitable for all students. This is possible because the FNSBSD provides instruments and equipment for student use.

Middle School:

As students move from elementary to middle school, they have an automatic positive peer group through their band, choir and orchestra ensemble participation that will stay with them throughout their school career.

These positive peer groups also provide a place for military students to find a home at their new schools.

Ryan Middle School and Barnet Magnet School jazz bands attended the Valley Jazz Festival in Wasilla.

High School

Fairbanks had significant representation at the ASAA All-State Festival and ASAA State Solo and Ensemble Festival. At the highly competitive 2016 ASAA All-State Festival Competition, Region 6 (Delta, Fairbanks, and North Pole) submitted 98 auditions of which 58 were accepted. This equates to a 59% acceptance rate. This is the highest acceptance rate of all regions in Alaska!

Four of the First Chair awards at All-State were given to our students, which is 12% of first chairs given. HALF of the orchestra first chairs were from the FNSBSD!

At the 2016 State Solo and Ensemble the FNSBSD was equally well-represented with 7 out of 33 first place command performance awards given to FNSBSD students, which is 21% of the total first place awards given.

Both Lathrop High School and North Pole High School produced all-school musicals. North Pole music department produced the musical, "Rock of Ages", and Lathrop music department presented "Little Shop of Horrors".

Miscellaneous:

Teachers in the FNSBSD collaborate to produce Music In Our School Month Concerts which encompass students from grades 4-12.

All music teachers in the FNSBSD are highly qualified music educators.

Many music teachers from the FNSBSD are members of the National Association for Music Education as well as the Alaska Music Educators Association, and attend state and national conferences.

Collaboration occurs with other community groups such as Fairbanks Light Opera Theatre, Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra, UAF Department of Music and Fairbanks Concert Association. Many groups come and perform at schools and/or come to schools to work with students in order to improve their skills.

Students from our schools are awarded scholarship money to attend college regardless of their major. Of the \$24,000 UAF awarded last year 2016-2017 in Music scholarships, \$3,000 was awarded to incoming freshman who graduated in 2016 from schools in the FNSNSD.

The music teachers of the FNSBSD sponsor a Music in Our Schools Month T-shirt design contest for their t-shirt fundraiser every year. The funds are used to give scholarships to music students to attend music/performance summer camps. **In 2016**, the MIOSM Scholarship Committee awarded **\$4025** in scholarships to local students so that they could have musical experience and training over the summer! The following students received awards in varying amounts: Nanieezh Peter, Emmet Jensen, Amanda Scott, Bethany Platt, Hannah Kun, Colton Phillips, Kaylynn Balcom, Arianna Cruse, Zachary Cook, Aden Hartley, Ahviana Johnkins, Kiana Ake Arusha Patterson, Vaughan Simpson, Euan Uliassi, Kendall Swart, Savannah Hill Huizenga, Yukina Shambare, William Schuler, Ben Proell, Isabella Sonnek, Kaeda Reamer, Thaelen Reamer. Their camps of choice included Fairbanks Bluegrass Camp for Kids, Flot Jr. Summer Fine Arts Camp, and Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival.

Recommendations

Jazz Band

Offer jazz band as a class at every middle and high school. *This aligns with the FNSBSD's motto "equity and excellence for all". It also aligns with the Fairbanks School Board's core value to be student centered.*

- This can be achieved by offering jazz band as a zero-hour class or during an advisory-type or exploratory-type class.
- Currently jazz band is not offered at all middle schools and high schools.
- Because jazz band is an advanced class and requires critical thinking and another level of understanding in music, this discrepancy puts some students at a severe disadvantage to others when they go on to high school. Students who attend middle schools that offer jazz band are better prepared for this advanced ensemble, while students who attend a middle school that does not offer jazz band as a class have much less skill preparation for this.
- Offering jazz band as a class at every middle school would align with the FNSBSD's goal to be equitable.

Choir

Offer choir as a class at every middle and high school. *This aligns with the FNSBSD's motto "equity and excellence for all". It also aligns with the Fairbanks School Board's core value to be student centered.*

- Currently, two semesters of choir is not offered at all middle schools and high schools.
- Choir class is accessible to all students (including those with special needs), has little or no financial requirement for participation, and is not limited by availability of instruments (can take more students)
- Research shows that group singing releases **oxytocin**, a chemical that manages anxiety and stress.
- Students participating in a school choir are more likely to:
 - be more engaged in other school subjects/activities
 - have more self confidence
 - have increased memory skills
 - improve their academic performance
 - increase social skills
 - participate in civic engagement
- Offering choir at every middle school and high school would align with the FNSBSD's goal to be equitable.

Equitable Offerings

Every school should offer choir, band and orchestra. All students should have equitable options regardless of which school he/she attends. *This recommendation aligns with the Fairbanks School Board's core values to be student-centered, collaborative, and innovative and have high expectations and respect as well as its strategic goals to execute personalized learning, organizational support, and parent and community engagement.*

Strategic Instrument Repair/Replacement

Create a strategic plan of capital outlay on a rotational basis for the repair and replacement of aging instrument and/or equipment that may require expensive repairs or are beyond repair. Instruments have a life span. At some point they are beyond repair or at least beyond cheap repair. Instruments that are broken or difficult to play are very discouraging for students. *This aligns with the Fairbanks School Board's core values to be student-centered and innovative as well as its strategic goals to provide organizational support.*

Upgrade Technology in All Music Classrooms

There are music classrooms that have not been kept up with current technology within the district. *This aligns with the Fairbanks School Board's strategic goals to provide technology integration.*

Collaborate to Maximize the Use of Time and Resources

In many situations, elementary instrumental music educators are denied access to students because of the needs of the school schedule. Currently it is up to the music teachers to reconcile these issues to the best of their ability. Principals who work collaboratively on scheduling, maximize personnel resources. *This recommendation aligns with the Fairbanks School Board's core values to be collaborative and innovative and have high expectations and respect as well as its strategic goals to execute effective communication and provide organizational support.*

Teacher Recruitment and Retention

It is in the best interest of our students to have consistent programs that are stable and offered consecutively every year. Full-time positions will attract qualified teachers who will invest their lives in our community and provide a caring and nurturing environment in the classroom. *This recommendation aligns with the Fairbanks School Board's core values to be student-centered, collaborative, and innovative and have high expectations and respect as well as its strategic goals to execute effective communication and provide organizational support.*

Topics for consideration in future reports:

- Surveying students to gain information such as
 - Why the decline in music participation from middle school to high school? Is it scheduling conflicts?
 - What keeps students participating in music?
 - When and why do students cease to participate in music in school?
- Gathering further data from schools and breaking down that information to gain further knowledge.