

# DCSD Music Notes April 2025

Hello! Each month during the school year, our PreK-12 Dansville Music Department will be sharing with you a newsletter, so you are aware of what we are learning and performing in our classrooms and to also share with you important dates, reminders, etc. Please reach out to any of us if you have any music related questions or concerns!



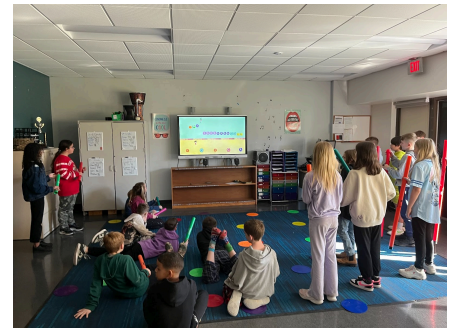
## **PreK - 2 Music** | Mr. Lopez | [lopezn@dansvillecsd.org](mailto:lopezn@dansvillecsd.org)





Our students at DPS have been making plenty of music! This month, we took a look at basslines and harmonies in 1st and 2nd grade. In Kindergarten and 4PK, we have been using movement to work on our steady beat, and working on singing patterns to work on our tonal skills. Each grade has been working to actively listen while playing instruments, so they can make great sounds together! We can't wait to see them work hard the rest of the year!

## **EBH (Grades 3 - 6) Music and EBH Chorus** | Mr. Lopez | [lopezn@dansvillecsd.org](mailto:lopezn@dansvillecsd.org)

Our students at EBH have also been hard at work. Our 3rd grade and 4th grade students learned a new song and its bassline called "Ask an Axolotl" and have used boomwhackers and bucket drums to make their own arrangement. Our 5th grade students have just finished a research project about musical theatre, and 6th grade has finished one on TV and Movie Music. Our 5th and 6th Grade Chorus and 4th grade chorus are continuing to work on concert music, as well as focusing on musical concepts like music literacy through solfege and practicing our dynamics and phrasing! We hope you join us at our spring concert on May 13th. 4th Grade Chorus call time is 5:30pm for a 6:00pm start time. 5th/6th Grade Chorus call time is 6:30pm for a 7:00pm call time. A sheet with all concert information will be sent home with the students early next week! Hope to see you there!



## **EBH Band (4th Grade Beginning Band and 5th and 6th Grade Band)** Mrs. Bell | [bellm@dansvillecsd.org](mailto:bellm@dansvillecsd.org)





**We did it!!!**

What an amazing concert from both bands! I am so proud of you.

**What's next?**

**5/6 Band:** Over the next few weeks, the 5/6 band will be preparing for the Dogwood Parade on May 17 and the Memorial Day Parade on May 26. As we do this, we will take weekly trips to the track to practice marching in formation. This means that students will need **SNEAKERS** for band rehearsal days (Monday/Wednesday). Should a student arrive to rehearsal without sneakers, their preparedness grade will be affected and they run the risk of injury when marching with inappropriate footwear.

**4th Grade Band:** Students in the 4th grade band will continue with our lesson book materials. New scales, new songs, and eventually notation are just a few of the things that we will learn through the end of the year. While students will be marching in the Memorial Day Parade, they WILL NOT be playing their instruments. More information to come :)



Once again, thank you to the parents, custodial staff, administration team, and music department for helping to make concert night such a huge success. It takes a village, and I am forever grateful!



## 7th and 8th Grade Band/7th Grade General Music | Mrs. Irwin | [irwine@dansvillecsd.org](mailto:irwine@dansvillecsd.org)



The 7th and 8th Grade Band is in full preparation mode for their upcoming performances at the Dogwood Parade (Saturday, May 17th at 5:00pm) and the Memorial Day Parade (Monday, May 26th at 10:00am). They will be performing "Sweet Caroline" and "California Girls"; they are working hard on memorizing both songs and they are also working hard on marching in step to them. A big congratulations to all of the 7th - 12th Grade Band students on a job well done at their Spring Concert which was on April 9th! 7th Grade General Music is concluding a unit on African Drumming and are now beginning a new unit on



Broadway musicals.

## 9th - 12th Grade Band/Drumline/Music Exploratory Class | Ms. Johnson | [johnsonj@dansvillecsd.org](mailto:johnsonj@dansvillecsd.org)

Congratulations to the 7-12 jazz ensemble, the high school drumline, and the high school concert band on a successful Spring concert! Senior spotlight: We thank these seniors for an amazing year with the band and we wish them well on their future endeavors: Arabella Fronk, Loki Forsburg, Nadia Lemmon and Sawyer Wightman.

A special shout out goes to two 8th Grade band students, Josh Forrester and Eli Jennings, for their help with the 9-12 concert band! After Spring Break, the percussionists were visited by a clinician, John Anderson, and we are so appreciative of his skill and expertise! Be ready to support our Dansville Marching Mustangs on: May 17th - Dogwood Parade & May 26th - Memorial Day Parade. We will be featuring our newest drum majors on their parade debut: Isaiah Goins and Mollie Herrmann! See you there!



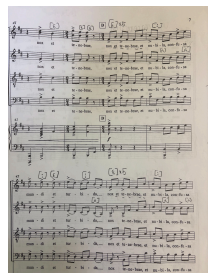
## 7th - 12th Grade Chorus/Music Theater Director | Mrs. Buckel | [buckell@dansvillecsd.org](mailto:buckell@dansvillecsd.org)

The High School choir is working hard to clean and perfect music for the Spring concert on May 21st. We have started learning about something called the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). This is a phonetic notation system that uses symbols to represent individual speech sounds in all languages. Using IPA in choir helps us to sing with a blended and unified sound, allowing us to truly take our music to the next level. We started with three sounds



and applied them to our Latin song, "Nox". During lessons, we broke the sounds down and applied them to our music, learning how to write in phonetic notation.

JH Chorus has been focused on adding musicality to our concert music. This includes things such as dynamics, tempo changes, vowel shapes, and emotion behind our pieces. Adding musicality to a choral piece takes it to another level and also helps our ensembles reach a higher level in the New York State standards for music. Our goal is to reach standard MU:Pr4.3.8 which is the ability to Present the final version of a composition, song or arrangement using craftsmanship and originality to demonstrate the application of compositional techniques for creating unity, variety, tension and release, balance, and expressing intent.



The drama club is excited to be a part of the Stars of Tomorrow Program this

year. With this program, high schools in Monroe and surrounding counties with fall or spring musical productions can have a team of trained, qualified evaluators attend productions, providing students and directors with written feedback and rubric scores in a variety of production areas. On May 9th, we will be attending the annual Stars of Tomorrow Gala where participating schools go to celebrate everyone's successes and can possibly receive recognition from the Stars of Tomorrow Program for high scores.

This production is a proud participant in

