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MEDIA RELEASE

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Ashwaubenon School District Receives National Recognition for Music Education Support

Ashwaubenon, WI – May 13, 2025

Ashwaubenon School District has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for their outstanding support and commitment to music education. Now in its 26th year, the Best Communities for Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement for providing music access and education to all students.

Two awards are given each year: Best Communities for Music Education (BCME) for school districts and the SupportMusic Merit Award (SMMA) for individual school sites. Both reach K-12 schools and districts throughout the U.S. and offer opportunities to increase awareness and support for music programs. Over 1,000 districts and individual school sites (public, private, charter, parochial) were recognized for having the highest commitment to producing exceptional music programs.

“Here in the Ashwaubenon School District, music education is a critical component for us to provide a well-rounded education. It nurtures creativity, contributes to higher academic performance, promotes discipline, as well as collaboration. All vital skills our students need to thrive in school and in life”, said Superintendent Weyers.

Ashwaubenon High School band director, Ellen Moon had this to say, “We are fortunate to have such a dedicated staff of music educators, K-12, in Ashwaubenon. The strength and diversity of our program offerings and of our staff provide our students with immersive opportunities that build self-esteem, give them a sense of belonging, and provide a creative outlet. We appreciate that the Ashwaubenon School District values music and the benefits it brings to our students.”

To qualify for the Best Communities designation, Ashwaubenon School District answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program and community music-making programs. Responses were verified by school officials and reviewed by the leading arts educational research firm, WolfBrown.

About The NAMM Foundation

The NAMM Foundation is the charitable arm of the National Association of Music Merchants, the global trade association for the music products industry. The foundation works to remove systemic barriers that limit access

to music-making and career pathways in the music industry. By investing in bold ideas and innovative solutions, we strive to build inclusive and thriving musical communities. For more information about The NAMM Foundation, please visit www.nammfoundation.org.

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