Media Contact:
Rachael Chappa
rchappa@fairfieldschools.org

FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR MUSIC EDUCATION FOR FIVE CONSECUTIVE YEARS

Fairfield, CT – May 15, 2025 – Fairfield Public Schools has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for their outstanding support and commitment to music education. The Best Communities for Music Education Designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement for providing music access and education to all students.

Fairfield Public Schools' music program offers a wealth of enriching opportunities that showcase the talent and dedication of its student musicians. From elementary through high school, students participate in a wide range of ensembles including band, orchestra, and chorus, with many earning selection to prestigious honors such as Western Regionals and All-State. This spring, middle school music students took part in Articulation Tours, visiting their feeder elementary schools to inspire incoming fifth graders with live performances and personal insights into the exciting musical journey ahead. High school choral students had the rare opportunity to work with Chanticleer, the world-renowned, Grammy award-winning ensemble, in an unforgettable clinic hosted by Trinity Southport. Elementary string students also experienced the creative process firsthand through the commission of an original composition. Collaborating with composer Chris Bernotas, the work, titled Flight of the Phoenix, culminated in a powerful world premiere performance. These experiences not only elevate musical excellence but also deepen students' connections to the arts, their peers, and the wider community.

"We are incredibly honored to receive the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation. This recognition reflects the unwavering dedication of our teachers, students, families, and community partners who continue to champion the value of music education in Fairfield," said Fairfield Superintendent Michael J. Testani. "Music is not just an elective, it is a vital part of our students' academic and personal development, fostering creativity, collaboration, and confidence."

To qualify for the Best Communities designation, Fairfield Public Schools 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 Responses were verified by school officials and reviewed by the leading arts educational research firm, WolfBrown.

# # #