

Rationale for Music Education

- 1) **Music** is a potential in every individual that, like all potential, should be developed to its fullest.
- 2) **Music** provides an outlet for creativity, self-expression, and individual uniqueness. It enables us to express our noblest thoughts and feelings.
- 3) **Music teaches** students about unique aspects of their relationships with other human beings and with the world around them, in their own and other cultures.
- 4) **Music is mathematical.** It is rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions, which must be produced instantaneously, not worked out on paper. This accounts for every note produced.
- 5) **Music is a foreign language.** Most of the vocabulary used is that of Italian. Shorthand is used by symbols to represent instructions on how a piece should be played. The semantics of music is the most complete and universal language.
- 6) **Music is history.** Music usually reflects the environment and times of it's creating often even the country and/or racial feeling.
- 7) **Music** is one of the most important manifestations of our cultural heritage. Children need to know about Beethoven, Mozart, the Beatles as well as Newton and Einstein.
- 8) **Music is a Physical Education.** It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, legs, lips, cheek and facial muscles in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragm, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.
- 9) **Music opens** avenues of success for students who may have problems in other areas of curriculum and opens approaches to learning that can be applied in other contexts.
- 10) **Music exalts** the human spirit, develops insight and demands research.
- 11) **Music is** worth knowing and part of your being...
- 12) **Music is all these things, but most of all, MUSIC IS ART.** It allows a human being to take all these technically boring (but difficult) techniques and use them to create emotion.