

Press from:

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**For Release:** TapInto

**Submitted by:** New Providence School District

**Subject:** NEW PROVIDENCE MUSIC PROGRAM RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR TENTH TIME



New Providence has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education. It is the ninth consecutive year, and the tenth year overall, that New Providence has been recognized.

To qualify for the Best Communities designation, Kenneth Hess, Department Head of Music Education and Performing Arts, answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program and instructional practice shifts during the pandemic. *Responses were verified with school officials and reviewed by The Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.*

“Congratulations to our school community for this well-deserved distinction,” said Superintendent of Schools, Dr. David Miceli. “It is a privilege to work in a community that values its music education programs. Nine consecutive years is quite an achievement!”

Research into music education continues to demonstrate educational/cognitive and social skill benefits for children who make music: After two years of music education, researchers found that participants showed more substantial improvements in how the brain processes speech and reading scores than their less-involved peers and that students who are involved in music are not only more likely to graduate high school, but also to attend college as well.

The NAMM Foundation is a nonprofit supported in part by the National Association of Music Merchants and its approximately 10,400 members around the world. The foundation advances active participation in music making across the lifespan by supporting scientific research, philanthropic giving and public service programs. For more information about The NAMM Foundation, please visit [www.nammfoundation.org](http://www.nammfoundation.org).



New Providence School District Music and Performing Arts Staff Members 2020  
Missing from photo: Mr. Rostad