Welcome back!

Our music education and performing arts staff are energized and excited for the beginning of what will undoubtedly be another stellar year for all our performing arts students.

In the past year I have been thrilled to see:

- fifty-one elementary school students accepted into county, regional, and all-state honor ensembles,
- the middle school music department winning the Esprit de Corps award at Music In The Parks for an unprecedented third year in a row, and
- a sold-out and highly-praised production of Beauty and the Beast by our high school music and drama departments.

I would like to commend our outstanding faculty for their hard work and guidance in preparing our students for all their musical and theatrical endeavors. It is truly a pleasure to count them as my colleagues.

Replacing Mr. Ed Fleischmann this school year we welcome Miss Kristen Ciambrone to our faculty.

Miss Ciambrone comes to us from Morristown where she taught middle school strings for several years and managed NJMEA high school Region 1 orchestra.

We are excited to have her joining the middle school and high school staff as our Director of Strings. I know that our students, parents, and school community will make her feel welcome!

As always, I urge everyone to become a member of the Music Boosters to show your support for the performing arts, for your school community, and for your children.

It is largely due to our parent support that the NAMM Foundation named New Providence a “Best Community for Music Education” in 2013. Let’s work together and make this another fantastic school year!

When hearing of NP Music Boosters for the first time, people might ask, “Why? Why do we need an organization to ‘boost’ music education?”

The answer is simple. There are 1800 kids involved in the NPSD’s Music Education program. If you look within this number you will find a level of teaching excellence providing each of these students the opportunity to participate in one or more of the 30 music organizations within the NPSD.

From the kindergarten chorus, to beginner instrument bands and orchestras, to musical theater, orchestra, band and choral groups, each student has the opportunity to specialize in ensembles of every kind.

The most stunning statistic, however, is the fact that these programs and musical education for 1800 children is carried out with excellence by only 11 teachers!

Every day, these gifted music educators are instructing our children to become excellent musicians. And it is working!

Read on! On the following pages, you will see why NP Music Boosters exists and why you need to join today!
A NEW LOOK FOR MUSIC BOOSTERS!

Starting this school year, New Providence Music Boosters has been revamped to provide even more “Boost.” How has it changed? A new website for starters! Visit www.npmusicboosters.org. The website can be your “go-to” source for concert information, coming events and to become a MuBoo member and volunteer. See where your contributions are spent and the difference you are making in the music education of your kids!

While there, why don’t you join? As a gift to show our appreciation for your support, you will receive exclusive MuBoo merchandise. This merchandise is also available for purchase in the MuBoo store, which will be launched soon! When joining, notice that there are new membership levels. Those levels include:

**Booster $25**—to show thanks for your donation, you will receive an exclusive MuBoo window cling in your choice of green or gold

**Partner $35**—Partners receive the MuBoo window cling, as well as a customized musical element window cling in the instrument, voice, ensemble or music style of their choice. Here are some examples:

- **Vi** - Violin
- **Mb** - Marching Band
- **Kb** - Keyboard
- **Rk** - Rock Music
- **Tt** - Trumpet
- **At** - Alto

**Patron $50**—Patron members receive all of the above plus a customized car magnet and a MuBoo luggage tag.

**Benefactor $100**—Benefactors receive all of the above, plus a customized yard sign. Three designs to choose from!

**Visionary $500**—the whole “shebang”! You get it all, plus a MuBoo exclusive design of the Periodic Table of Musical Elements in your choice of a t-shirt or a frame-able 24” x 36” poster.

Visit us on the web at www.npmusicboosters.org

Looking Ahead

2013

- **November 15 & 16** - 7:30 p.m.  
  The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)  
  High School Drama Dept.
- **November 26** - 7:30 p.m.  
  NPMS Winter Concert
- **December 3** - 7:30 p.m.  
  Allen W. Roberts Winter Concert
- **December 4** - 7:30 p.m.  
  Salt Brook Winter Concert
- **December 11** - 7:30 p.m.  
  NPHS Holiday Concert

2014

- **January 21 & 22** - 7 p.m.  
  NPHS Vocal Recitals
- **March 14, 15 & 16**  
  Crazy for You  
  High School Drama Dept.

See page 15 for the MuBoo Membership form.

See page 16 for our exclusive merchandise MuBoo Store.
Greetings!

As I jump back into the school year, I look to memories of past music classes and student performances to guide me in my planning. While many of these memories are fond, there are always a special few that stick in my mind.

Two years ago my fifth graders engaged in a small group composition project designed to explore the concept of “tempo” (speed in music.) In groups of five, students chose two different tempi to incorporate into the composition, and created a short song using five classroom instruments: xylophones, bells, claves, boomwhackers, and various other percussion instruments. Not only did the students have fun manipulating the tempo and the individual tone colors of the instruments, they also worked collaboratively resulting in some pretty cool music! The process was a bit chaotic, as most creative activities are, but the results were golden. One group in particular stood out: their instruments were all made of metal, and the work, starting “adagio” (slow) and gradually accelerating to “allegro” (fast) was designed to represent a snow storm. It was truly a musical picture.

Starting in winter I like to give students who take instrumental music lessons a chance to perform in music class for their peers. This gives the young musician a performing outlet and gives a chance for the class to practice their audience skills. Last year a young lady very hesitatingly volunteered to play piano for class, then promptly changed her mind—she was nervous. I figured that she was a beginner and hadn’t had much experience playing solo. Luckily, her classmates convinced her to follow through. When she played for us the following week, she played a very difficult Classical piano work flawlessly, stunning everyone in the room, including me. The applause was deafening, as it should have been! I think it’s safe to say that she got over her nerves that day.

A performance memory that I keep with me is Mrs. Passaro’s final Salt Brook Spring Vocal Concert in May 2012. I had the pleasure of playing piano for her and thoroughly enjoyed the electric performances of each of the grades. As always, the diction was clear, the tone energetic, and the fun.

FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Welcome back to a new school year!

It is my pleasure to congratulate the Music Education and Performing Arts Department on the NAMM Foundation designation as “Best Community for Music Education.” This recognition represents the community’s passion and support for the arts, and the tireless efforts of our students and staff. With the opening of another school year, we look forward to their continued success.

This year’s High School Marching Band’s theme is “Earth.” We look forward to music selections from Disney World, Bobby McFerrin, Michael Jackson, and an original composition by our own Michael Niedzniejko. We anticipate great performances this fall, and I want to wish the Band well with their upcoming competitions.

For the first time, the department hosted an All-District Choral Day. Our choirs from sixth through twelfth grade will meet at the high school on Tuesday, October 29, for a collaborative workshop with nationally-renowned choral conductor and composer Dr. Ysaye Barnwell. The day will feature peer performances and intergenerational rehearsals and activities made possible by a Music Boosters’ grant.

This year’s fall play—The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged), a parody of the Bard’s plays was performed in shortened form. It was first performed in London in 1987, and ran for nine years. Performances were on November 15th and 16th. Our much anticipated four winter concerts are once again scheduled during the months of November and December. These concerts will highlight the various ensembles from each of our four schools.

This spring, we look ahead to the presentation of Crazy for You, a romantic comedy with a book by Ken Ludwig, and music and lyrics by George and Ira Gershwin. Crazy For You won the Tony Award for Best Musical in 1992, features a large cast, full-scale production numbers, and enchanting Gershwine tunes such as “Someone to Watch Over Me,” “Embraceable You,” “They Can’t Take That Away from Me,” and “I Got Rhythm.” Performances will be on March 14th, 15th and 16th in the High School Auditorium.

I would like to congratulate and thank all of our Music Education and Performing Arts staff for their contributions which have benefited our students and district. I also want to take this opportunity to thank our Board of Education, the Music Boosters, parents, and community for their ongoing support of our music programs.

Please continue to visit our district website to access additional information and photo galleries from the Music Education and Performing Arts Department. As we begin a new year, I look forward to all of the magical performances ahead, and wish everyone an exciting and fulfilling year.
Why I Teach
By Gerald Polci

As the Middle School band director for the past 19 years, I've had quite a few teaching moments where I've said, “Now that's why I teach.”

It happens every year

• when a student might be struggling with something, and finally realizes that he or she can do it, and it really wasn’t that hard to begin with;

• when a student with seemingly advanced proficiency, understands they may have just touched the surface of their talent and they find great joy in getting to the next level;

• when I see an older student guide a younger student through a difficult time, whether musically or personally, and how that helps shape the character of both students;

• or when I see the look of accomplishment and pride on the faces of every student after a successful performance, and how this accomplishment helps every student in all aspects of their lives.

My job in all of this was to put those students in the position to have a positive musical or personal event. They are the ones who chose to make it a great teaching moment.

It's hard to pick one single event out of so many, but as each one occurs I have to stop and think who benefits most from these events: me or my students.

I'd like to think we all do.

CREATIVITY, CRITICAL LISTENING, AND COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE (Continued from page 3)

hand motions and facial expressions truly expressed the joy of communicating through song. It was inspirational.

Finally, my fifth and sixth grade chorus from last year performed a great holiday themed piece in their Winter Concert called “Here In My House.” This song takes two separate melodies, lovely on their own, and puts them together in a two-part harmony that not only works, but actually enhances each tune. This is a called a “partner song.” In November, when the students were becoming comfortable singing each tune alone, it was time to put them together—a cappella. The first few times we practiced this, the end result was tentative, even weak - dropped pitches, muddled diction, eyes darting around the room in confusion. But with each attempt, and greater attention to critical listening, the tunes became stronger and the singers became more proud of their achievement. At the concert their excellent performance of the partner songs served as a metaphor for individuals of varying backgrounds and cultures coming together in a sense of community—our future leaders at work toward a common goal. Stay tuned for more of the same!

A Happy Stroll Down Memory Lane
By Celeste Zazzzli

I’m happy to be starting my eighth year of teaching band and recorders at Allen W. Roberts Elementary School. Over the years, there have been countless lessons spent working out rhythms, naming notes, and practicing scales. What are some of the most memorable moments?

Let’s go way back to the pre-construction days when band rehearsal took place in the cafeteria. The Concert Band was working on a challenging new piece called “Ancient Voices.” Week after week, the group chipped away and made steady progress, but it wasn’t quite right. The entrances were in the wrong spot, and the beat wasn’t holding steady. Then finally during the last few minutes of rehearsal, the music came together and the group got it! The music stopped and the excitement erupted from the group like a volcano as they packed up their instruments. It was so cool!

A few years later, there was a Beginner Band that would genuinely get excited about anything we did. Of course getting your instrument for the first time is exciting, but I’ll never forget the time that we were learning the B♭ concert scale. Scales are usually not something that generates much of a reaction when they’re introduced, but this particular class actually cheered when I said, “Today we’re going to learn the B♭ concert scale.”

The highlight of the year in recorder class is always Sampling Day. What a fun day! The kids go from station to station trying all of the instruments offered in the band & orchestra. Afterwards, you can hear the joy and excitement in their conversations as they talk about the instruments.

The best memories that I have from teaching in New Providence have the common thread of pure excitement. Thank you for sharing in the joy!
MEMORIES
By Donald Baker, Salt Brook Band

It may seem odd that my most vivid New Providence teaching memory is of a high school student, since I am an elementary teacher but here it is.

It was my first year in New Providence, my first year working with the marching band, and my first band camp experience. I knew almost no student’s names. I even told the brass players that if I knew their name by the end of camp it was either a really good thing or a really “band” thing.

In came this freshman trombone player. He just didn’t get it. He couldn’t stay in step, couldn’t hold his horn up, didn’t know his music, basically he just could not do anything right.

I knew his name on the first day. Not good.

Flash forward a couple years and he was absolutely transformed. He was the trombone section leader!

He could always be counted on to know his music, his drill, and even help out others who were struggling. In the more than 20 years I’ve been teaching I’ve never seen a transformation so enormous and all encompassing.

Another fond memory would be of that same band camp. I was supposed to help the brass players learn their music. And I was afraid, very afraid.

Now I’ve taught marching band and drum corps for a long time but I thought I finally took on something that I might not be able to do. You see a short time before camp I heard the band play together for the first time.

The percussion was really good. The woodwinds were great. The brasses were...ummm non-existent. They were there but you couldn’t even hear them when the band played.

They looked like they were playing but no real sound was coming out. So as luck would have it we had some rain at band camp. We couldn’t practice on the field so we had to find some cover.

Well, there was this street hockey rink where we could practice. It had a roof and open sides. Perfect. We started our usual warm ups then I kept asking them to play louder.

They’d get a little louder for a little while but then the rain really started coming down. Did I mention the rink had a metal roof? Suddenly you couldn’t hear anything but the rain.

So they had to play louder and louder. This mostly worked. They got a lot louder but they sounded terrible. But they were loud—on everything. They had been saying, “But Mr. Baker this is supposed to be soft.” I’d reply, “Not anymore just play louder.”

Because of the rain, there is no soft; just loud and louder. They sounded so bad the woodwinds a little ways away in another building were cringing because I don’t think they ever heard something quite that awful. Mr. N had to reassure them that it was a process and in the end it would get better. I’m not sure they believed him.

Get better they did though. As the season went on they had a wide dynamic range and blended in with the band seamlessly.

My last one is a general memory. As a former high school teacher it’s always great to hear from former students and see what they’ve gone on to do. Now though I get to see some of my former students perform in middle school and high school and that is excellent.

Watching a student excel in the marching band or the musical or even an eagle scout project who had struggled starting an instrument makes hearing beginning band—at their first rehearsal—totally worth it.
Over the past 19 years of teaching here in New Providence, many memories have been forged in my mind related to performances and/or teaching. To highlight one is very difficult indeed, but I have selected to describe one in particular that was fairly recent.

The last two Fall Seasons have presented all of us with many challenges related to weather events. The Fall of 2011 brought the freak snowstorm right before Halloween which paralyzed the region and impacted so many in such a short period of time.

Not to be outdone and overshadowing that storm was Superstorm Sandy in the Fall of last year that rocked the entire region to it’s foundations for which areas are still trying to recover almost a year later and will, undoubtedly, continue to recover for years to come or even not at all. In the midst of all the upheaval and tragic devastation, the New Providence High School Marching Band was still charged with the completion of our competitive season.

We had just performed the evening before Sandy arrived at Ridge High School and the following week brought conditions and affects not seen for quite some time in this area or any area for that matter. Seemingly, perspective had certainly taken a turn to realistically evaluating what really is important. and the importance of Marching Band State and National Championships, rightfully, became insignificant compared to recovery and the effects of this weather disaster. Families and individuals dropped everything in efforts to help each other and preserve or create any sense of normalcy they could.

Once school reopened, having Marching Band seemed preposterous with more than half the town still without power and life being anything but normal. State Championships had been postponed and rescheduled creating a weekend to remember with State Championships on Saturday and National Championships on Sunday. Many conversations and discussions were conducted amongst staff, administration, parents and students about possibilities, intents and desires with regard to participating and most if not all were in favor of going through with this very challenging weekend. The Building and Central Administration were extremely supportive as always with providing us all with the support we needed.

State Championships were relocated to Washington Township High School in South Jersey some distance away and we were scheduled to perform late in the evening with awards to follow and a 2 hour trip home. The band performed well and returned early Sunday morning to New Providence only to have to prepare for National Championships that same day at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford.

The students reported that Sunday afternoon and were extremely spent having dealt with the absence of power combined with such a long day the day before with a football game followed by State Championships in South Jersey. Then we conducted a short rehearsal to focus on the job at hand and something memorable happened. The band performed a run-through as is customary at the end of rehearsal and that performance was the best performance the band has given in my entire tenure here at NPHS. The excellence, intensity and pride was teaming off the field and at the end we all knew that regardless of the outcome later that evening on the turf of MetLife Stadium we were already National Champions in realizing our full potential together in THAT performance on Lieder Field. Those students opened up their hearts and minds to the activity and collectively delivered a gift to anyone who witnessed that performance that I, certainly, will remember forever.
As a Drama teacher for the past twenty-five years I’ve had some truly fantastic experiences:

♦ watching fledgling performers suddenly turn into seasoned pros during a weekend run,
♦ being in rehearsal and witnessing a breakthrough moment when something just goes perfectly right,
♦ standing in the back of a sold-out performance and watching the beaming faces of cast and crew during a thunderous ovation.

So many great moments it’s hard to focus on just one. But I’ll try.

I was teaching in California at the time and it was opening night of our high school production of *Grease*. Now if you know me, you probably know I’m not a huge fan of the show, but I was young and trying to drum up interest and enthusiasm for the Drama program, so there you are.

We had just suffered a major setback the previous week during tech rehearsals. Someone had broken into the theatre late one night and stolen all of our newly purchased audio equipment, CD player, tape deck, microphones, recording equipment, the whole she-bang. The school was unable to reimburse the loss, but amazingly, the community found out, rallied around our kids, and raised the funds to replace the stolen equipment, all in about three days!

Meanwhile...back to opening night. It was about 4:30 pm that Friday afternoon—three hours ’til curtain.

I had driven up to Orange County to pick up some fog and smoke machines we needed for the *Greased Lightning* number. I was heading back to school, aiming to be back by 6pm.

Coming over the Ortega Highway about 20 min. from school, suddenly the road was closed. There was a fire along the coastal mountain range and there was no way of getting down to the school. I could actually see the town down below, but I had no way to get there, other than driving all the way back the way I had come, in rush hour traffic, making a complete circle the opposite direction, and praying I’d make it in time.

Driving like a maniac, frantically calling parents, kids, stage managers, anyone I could reach, I finally got to the school about fifteen minutes after the curtain was supposed to go up. I fully expected to see a mob of frustrated friends and family all angry with the irresponsible young drama teacher who was late to his own play!

But to my amazement, no one was outside at all! Everyone was inside, enjoying the show. The stage manager, cast, and crew had cued “places,” started the show right on time, and were in the midst of the third dance number, when I came running backstage. Moments later, in a blaze of smoke, fog, and strobe lights, *Greased Lightning* made its stunning debut as one of the crew kids turned to me and said, “Hey Duke, don’t worry, we got this.”

I am constantly amazed by students; by their talent, their creativity, their resourcefulness, their willingness to take on any challenge. I hope I can teach them half as much as they teach me. Thanks for the memories.
sing, they are not just entertainment for an evening, but they are reminded of the past Christmases when they were growing up or when their children were small.

He told the girls that they weren’t just singing for an hour, but they were helping the seniors relive some of the happiest moments in their lives.

Well, I was in tears and I turned to see that the entire Girls Ensemble was crying as well.

We somehow made it through “The Twelve Days of Christmas” and wished them the happiest of holidays. In the lobby while eating cookies, (ahhh, the cookies!) that speech was all they could talk about.

“When are we coming back?” they wanted to know. I told them that all of the ensembles take turns so we won’t be back until next December. They looked so disappointed.

It’s my favorite night of the year!

Visit us on the web at www.npmusicboosters.org

The Cut Times
Something There

By Susan Kirkland, NPHS Vocal Music

Offering a character breakfast for Beauty and the Beast was something that we had always wanted to do if we ever mounted the show. It seemed like a good way, not only to promote the show and raise some additional funds, but also to share our love for musical theatre with the families in the community - a chance to give back.

What we didn't realize was that a character breakfast would be an entire production itself (yikes!). We had such an incredible and creative planning team (thank you AGAIN!), a costumer extraordinaire (you know who you are), and a very talented group of volunteers and directors (who probably never want to see a pancake ever again), all working together to make this dream become reality. A lot of heart and soul went into the planning of this event, and we had hoped for success, despite this being the first time any of us had even attempted something so large-scale. We had no idea about what we were in for, but we never could have guessed that it would turn out to be such a spectacular and memorable experience.

Now here comes the really amazing part (and I hesitate to reveal this, because it vaguely resembled a magic trick)...prior to the morning of the Character Breakfast, our 40 student cast members and additional student volunteers had never (or VERY rarely):

- **Served** a sit-down breakfast to a room filled with hundreds (yes, that's HUNDREDS) of young children and their relatives
- **Cleaned up** and set up several hundred place settings perfectly within 15 minutes between seatings (that was really cool to watch)
- **Performed** show tunes in a noisy cafeteria in heavy and bulky costumes many had not seen until that morning
- **Functioned as celebrities** to the children
- **Inflated and arranged** enough balloons to give the MetLife blimp a run for its money (a little product placement - my husband works there)

- **Painted faces** (thanks Mr. V and art friends)
- **Conducted** a story-time for little ones
- **ANNNND...because of some scheduling and technical issues** that had happened the week prior, we simply ran out of time to rehearse for this (oh, and these kids were dead tired).

**So here's how it went down:** just prior to the character breakfast, the students showed up in the cafeteria. We gave them a diagram of the tables, assigned them to sections, gave them a quick overview of what was going to happen, introduced them to the parent volunteers, and gave them a quick tour of the room setup. We gave them a loose itinerary for the morning (to include serving food, busing tables, resetting the tables, photo shoots, autographs, arts and crafts, performances, reading time, face painting, selling merchandise, etc.) and very quickly ran through the songs we were going to sing.

All in all, they had about 30 minutes of training in catering, waiting tables, crowd control, crisis management, show promotion, performing in dinner theatre, waste management, birthday party entertainment, public relations, the terrible twos (aka crisis management), and merchandise sales.

What resulted was something that I will never forget. These incredible, tired students created a magical experience in our high school cafeteria for hundreds of children and their families that morning. It was as if they had been doing this sort of thing for years. The serving went so smoothly, any seating issues were addressed, spills were cleaned up, the students covered for one another, they signed autographs and took photos, and they interacted with great compassion toward the children.

And then, in the second breakfast seating, we started singing one of our ensemble songs for the audience. What followed was not rehearsed, nor was it done during the first seating, but all at once, one or two cast members started to dance to the song. I suddenly looked up from the piano to see the ENTIRE CAST spontaneously joining arms and weaving in and out of the tables, while enthusiastically singing; leaving the children (and this teacher) in awe. I have never seen more smiles in one place at one time. Their performance was creative, it was beautifully timed, it was (as we love to say in theatre) “in the moment”, and it was completely student-driven.

Now if you want to talk about critical thinking, performance tasks, and 21st century skills, I will tell you friends, this was the pinnacle. Not only that. It moved me. It moved me to tears. It still does.

When a teacher can stand back and watch his or her students quickly assimilate all of that information and take the reins to create something so incredibly wonderful (and even better, something that so positively impacts other people), it is one of our proudest and most satisfying moments.

Our kids get it. Not because of a rubric, or a test, or a standard, but because they are surrounded, no, engulfed, by a remarkable support system of family members, teachers, school staff members, administrators, school board members, local business people, education foundations, senior citizens, and community service workers who commit to making the COMPLETE (and yes, that includes the arts) education of our students a PRIORITY.

On a final note (pardon the pun), I would like to share how deeply honored and moved I am to have been recognized as Teacher of the Year at New Providence High School this past spring. In case you didn’t know, the administrators announced the middle school and high school Teachers of the Year at our spring musical assembly programs in March. I can’t begin to express how much this meant to me, to be surrounded by our cast members and my wonderful colleagues during this special moment. It was truly a great surprise. As many of you know, this year, I will be taking a little renewal break from the musical. As much as I love being a part of it, my inner voice was hinting that I need a breather (sometimes, we just have to listen to that voice). I continue to be humbled by the amazing support of the entire New Providence community. We achieve what we do because of this support, and I consider myself so fortunate to be a part of this community. Thank you and have a terrific school year!
Welcome back to school Community and Orchestra members! I hope everyone has had a restful and inspiring summer. I look forward to kicking off yet another great year in Orchestra.

In this year's musical message I would like to talk about artistic expression. To me, artistic expression is the fruits of the soul and mind. It's how someone can express their personal thoughts, feelings, emotions, spirit, culture, and identity.

Leonard Bernstein said, “Music can name the unnamable and communicate the unknowable.”

Albert Einstein said, “If I were not a physicist, I would probably be a musician. I often think in music. I live my daydreams in music. I see my life in terms of music.”

Plato said, “Music is moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, charm and gaiety to life and to everything.

In my opinion, life without expression can almost seem boring and without meaning. Can you imagine walking around your school or town without art, poetry, dance, music or theater? What could you do without it? It's actually too weird to think about.

However, there are many ways you can artistically express yourself. Some people play music, which is obviously my favorite. You can play an instrument and turn your emotions into music for yourself or for others to enjoy. To take it a step further, one can compose music and perhaps forever capture a moment in one's life. At every concert my elementary orchestras amaze me with their expressive performances. I carry these memories with me, and they inspire me as I begin each new school year.

Some people choose to express themselves through creating art. They say a picture or a painting is worth a thousand words. You can immerse yourself in creations through endless possibilities with a paint brush.

Some people love to dance. Sometimes you are able to witness a glimpse of someone's identity on the dance floor and how they freely express who they are to the world.

Which one is yours? Or even better, how can you help someone discover theirs?

Welcome to Ms. Ciambrone!
Our New Orchestra Teacher
for the Middle School and High School

My name is Kristen Ciambrone and I am pleased to be the new middle school and high school orchestra director in New Providence!

My primary instrument is violin and I began playing music in the Wall Public School District when I was ten years old. I fell in love with music and knew I wanted to be a music teacher when I was a sophomore in high school.

I earned my Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Montclair State University. While there, I had the wonderful opportunity to study with members of the Shanghai Quartet.

Upon graduation I began teaching at Frelinghuysen Middle School in Morristown, where I taught for five years. For three of those years I attended New York University part-time and have recently graduated in May 2013 with my Masters in Music Education.

During this time I also managed the Region I High School Symphonic Orchestra, which provided me with so many valuable experiences. In addition, I have been teaching private violin and viola lessons for the past eight years.

I feel so fortunate to be a part of a district that has such tremendous support from students, staff, administrators, parents and the community.

Teaching music is my passion and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to teach in New Providence! I am looking forward to a great year and getting to know the students and all the people who make this community so wonderful!
Musical Review
NPSD Musical Theater History
Year by Year

1966 – Bye Bye Birdie
1970 – Carousel
1972 – Kiss Me Kate
1974 – Oklahoma
1976 – Guys and Dolls
1978 – West Side Story
1980 – Annie Get Your Gun
1982 – How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying
1984 – Godspell
1986 – Oliver
1988 – Bye Bye Birdie
1989 – Dames at Sea
1990 – Leader of the Pack

1991 – You’re A Good Man Charlie Brown (HS)*
Annie (MS)*
1993 – L’il Abner (HS)*
The Pajama Game (MS)*
1994 – Kiss Me Kate
1995 – Meet Me in St. Louis (MS)*
1996 – Guys and Dolls
1997 – No No Nanette (MS)*
1998 - How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying
1999 – Carousel
2000 – Bye Bye Birdie
2001 – Boys from Syracuse
2002 – The Music Man

2003 – Hello Dolly
2004 – Anything Goes
2005 – Into the Woods
2006 – The Boyfriend
2007 – Guys and Dolls
2008 – Seussical
2009 – Kiss Me Kate
2010 – Thoroughly Modern Millie
2011 – Bye Bye Birdie
2012 – The Pirates of Penzance
2013 – Beauty and the Beast

* (HS) High School  *(MS) Middle School

Visit us on the web at www.npmusicboosters.org
The Cut Times
Project Trio
Rousing Success

The Music Boosters’ sponsored guest performing artists for the 2012-13 school year were Project Trio. A group of gifted musicians (a cellist, bassist and flautist) who have joined together to teach children the art of improvisation in music by performing their own compositions in concerts at each school.

In the high school and middle school, students who choral groups attended. The students who play flute, cello and bass at the Middle and High Schools then had the opportunity to participate in master classes with each of the Trio members. A highlight to many of the elementary students was to learn the flautist had played his flute on Nickelodeon’s iCarly!
I REMEMBER…

By Susan Peterson, NP Music Boosters President

This issue, the NPSD faculty was asked to recall transformational moments in their teaching careers. The stories were inspirational and I count myself as privileged to have personally witnessed several of these shining moments.

I have said countless times that we are blessed to have such a talented and dedicated music faculty in New Providence to work with our children. They are why I am so passionate about what Music Boosters support can do.

Every year, I have witnessed transformational performances by our faculty. There are too many to list here, but there are a few experiences I will never forget. At the inaugural Faculty Concert, I learned what extraordinary musicians we had on our faculty when:

- Mr. Hess played a very avant garde piano work which required him to open the cover and actually strum the strings of the piano; and
- Mrs. Passaro sang the “Cat Duet” with the then-Middle School vocal director Ms. Dilts.

It is a gift to watch the entire faculty collaborate on recital finales such as last year’s “Blue Skies.” And there wasn’t a dry eye in the house when Ms. Kirkland sang “For Good” in honor of the graduating seniors at my daughter Emma’s final High School concert.

Music Boosters sponsored programs have also included transformative experiences—from Project Trios Beat-Box Flute Workshop to Dr. Barnwell’s layered African chant. Music Boosters adds value to the excellent programs already in place in New Providence.

Become a part of the transformation process. Join Music Boosters at a level that best fits your budget and watch how Music and the Performing Arts help your children grow.

We’ve Got Some Great Ideas—Be a Part of Them!

BE A PART OF SOMETHING MEMORABLE

Beginning in January, parents will have the opportunity to support their child and the NPSD Music Program by purchasing an ad in the inaugural issue of the MuBoo Booster Book. Designed to highlight each musical organization in the NPSD (there are 30 of them!), photos of each group will be interspersed with personal ads created especially for your “special someone.” Watch for an email blast from MuBoo delivering more information and sample ad pages available! All proceeds from the Booster Book will be used to underwrite the purchase of new sound equipment for the high school auditorium, MuBoo scholarships and grants.

A Great Memory for You to Treasure

Also new this year a compilation DVD of highlights from this year’s performances. From beginner concerts for band and orchestra, to the Crazy for You Musical and end-of-year performances, get your order in early to reserve your copy!

You can also contribute to the DVD content! Submit your photos and video via email! Our email address is npmusicboosters@gmail.com. We will review them and edit them into the DVD (where possible).

Please note that because we want to keep the DVD length to 30-45 minutes, it may not be possible to use all of the video and/or photos that you might submit. See our website for further submission and DVD information.
New Providence Department of Music Education and Performing Arts
Mission Statement

The mission of the New Providence Music Education and Performing Arts Department is to create and maintain a learning environment that provides the highest order of education in all aspects of the performing arts supported by the school district.

We, as a department, firmly believe in the holistic development of each child and affirm that arts education is an integral part of each child’s education. Performing arts education provides a creative, yet structured, outlet for students to express themselves and encourages cultural and artistic awareness.

Through performing arts education, students learn not only basic concepts and techniques of performance art forms, but participate in a lifelong enrichment activity promoting collaboration, problem solving, coordination of various levels of higher-level thinking and the pursuit and appreciation of beauty.

It is the aim of the Department that EVERY student participating in the performing arts program will benefit in some way because:

- Performing Arts are FUN and for EVERYONE
- Performing Arts help to mold lifelong basic skills
- Performing Arts encourage and build commitment and dedication
- Performing Arts improve quality of character
- Performing Arts encourage and develop critical thinking skills
- Cultural awareness and study is critical to our existence in an ever-changing global community
- Beauty is critical to society

Volunteer—We Want You!
Ways to contribute to New Providence Music Boosters:

Join!

Either on the web:
www.npmusicboosters.org

Or by filling out the membership on the opposite page and returning it with your check to your child’s school.

Volunteer
Parent/Teacher Liaison
Videography
Photographer
Videographer
Editing and Compilation
Booster Book
Coordinator
Ad Sales
Layout and Publishing
Ice Cream Social
Coordinator
Ice Cream Scooper
Ticket table
Merchandise Sales
Be an extra set of hands

Get the word out! Tell your friends and neighbors about this great service sponsored by Music Boosters as our ongoing fundraiser throughout the year. You can feel assured using and recommending Market Day. Their quality meals provide the answer to that constant question on a hectic day: What am I going to fix for SUPPER???

There are other volunteer jobs available. Or maybe you can think of one yourself!

Go to our website to get involved!
New Providence Music Boosters
Membership Form 2013-2014

Who We Are/
What We Do
Music Boosters is an organization comprised of parents and friends whose purpose is to support the New Providence School District Music and Performing Arts Department through special performances, equipment purchases, scholarships and trips. Each year, we raise funds to accomplish the goal through our annual membership drive, merchandise sales, an ice cream social and Market Day Sales.

Come Join Us!

Member Information
Register online at www.npmusicboosters.org, or below:
Parent/Guardian______________________________________ E-mail______________________________
Address______________________________________________ Phone______________________________
City_________________ State____ Zip____ Check to opt-out of emails
Name as you would like it listed in Music Boosters Communications:
If your child participates in more than one musical group, please check all that apply:

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Volunteer Opportunities

____MuBoo Volunteer Coordinator
____Ice Cream Social Coordinator
____Videographer

____Booster Book Coordinator
____Volunteer
____DVD Coordinator
____DVD Volunteer
____Merchandise Sales Coordinator

____Teacher Liaison
____High School
____Middle School
____Salt Brook
____Roberts

____I want to help!
So you just gotta have that special MuBoo item? The easiest way to get what you want is through membership. Our MuBoo store will be up and running soon, but in the meantime, if you see something you like from the pictures above, shoot us an email: info@npmusicboosters.org.

Let us know what you would like and we will contact you directly to get the specifics of your order and arrange for payment and delivery!

We will also have tables set up at most musical events throughout the school year, so look for our MuBoo table and join, or purchase that special item or an ad in the booster book! We look forward to seeing you!