

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 7.44
MUSIC EDUCATION

1) STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Milwaukee Board of School Directors (Board) believes that each person deserves the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge necessary for participation in and appreciation for the arts. To that end, the Board shall require that the instruction of music be provided within all Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS).

All students shall be provided with the opportunity to have music instruction and to develop 21st-century skills and understandings through music education.

2) STANDARDS FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF MUSIC

- (a) Music instruction shall be provided in accordance with a written comprehensive music curriculum, including developmental experiences involving singing, playing instruments, listening, movement, creative expression, and music reading.
- (b) Music instruction shall be provided for all pupils in grades kindergarten through 6 and shall be performed by, or under the direction of, a licensed music teacher.
- (c) Music instruction, including performing ensemble classes and classes for non-performers, shall be available to all pupils from grades 7 through 12 and shall be taught by a licensed music teacher.
- (d) No student in MPS will be denied access to participation in any school's music education program. Students with disabilities shall have access to music instruction in a manner consistent with their individualized education plan.
- (e) All classroom music teachers are to be employees of Milwaukee Public Schools and be licensed by the State of Wisconsin. Traveling music teachers must work in collaboration with the licensed music teacher in the building.
- (f) School leaders, in collaboration with the classroom music teacher, are responsible for the scheduling of elementary, middle, and high school music classes to ensure that all students receive the appropriate amount of instruction.
- (g) Class sizes for music instruction shall be determined pursuant to Administrative Policy 7.25, Class Size. Larger performing ensemble class sizes may be determined at the discretion of the music teacher in collaboration with the school leader.
- (h) Music instruction shall be conducted in class space that is conducive to the study of music.

3) HOURS OF INSTRUCTION

- (a) The school leader shall be responsible for ensuring that the following hours of instruction are met. The district music curriculum specialist shall be responsible for monitoring elementary, middle, and high school music classes to ensure that all students receive the appropriate amount of instruction:
 - (1) Each student in grades K3-K4 shall have regular music instruction for no fewer than 30 minutes per week.
 - (2) Each student in grades K5-grade 2 shall have regular music instruction for no fewer than 60 minutes per week.
 - (3) Each student in grades 3-5 shall have regular music instruction for no fewer than 75 minutes per week.
 - (4) Each student in grades 6 shall have regular music instruction for no fewer than 100 minutes per week.

- (5) Each student in grades 7 and 8 shall be offered music instruction in each school for no fewer than 100 minutes per week
- (6) Instrumental and vocal classes in grades 6-8 shall meet at least three times weekly for a minimum of 120 minutes per week.
- (7) All performance-based classes and general music classes at the high school level shall meet for a minimum of 200 minutes per week.
- (8) All schools shall budget for one hour of lessons for each 100 students in grades 4 and above (minimum of two hours per school) either by an MPS traveling music teacher or another qualified music instructor.

4) MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

- (a) Administrative Procedure 7.44, Instrument Inventory and Distribution for Schools, shall determine instrument distribution and inventory.
 - (1) All district-purchased instruments are the property of MPS and can be allocated to schools at the discretion of the district music curriculum specialist.
 - (2) Inventory, records, repair, and maintenance of these instruments shall be the responsibility of the building music teacher in collaboration with the district instrument specialist.
 - (3) The district music curriculum specialist shall be responsible for maintaining a district-level inventory of instruments and developing appropriate rental policies.
- (b) Instruments shall be made available for student use in an equitable manner that considers the needs of individual students.
- (c) All district-purchased instruments are the property of MPS and must be allocated to schools in an equitable manner by the district Music Curriculum Specialist.

5) MONITORING AND EVALUATION

(a) Biannually, in October and May, a report shall be presented by the district music curriculum specialist to the Board on the district's music education programs.

(b) The Music Curriculum Specialist will report that Board Policy 7.44 is being met based on information from school leaders and the Office of School Administration. Board Directors will receive that report each year in October and May.

History: Adopted 11-21-19, Revised 08-31-23

Legal Ref.: W.S. 12101(1)(L); Adm. Code PI 8.01(2)(j)4, Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015

Cross Ref.: Admin. Policy 1.06, Equity
7.25, Class Size

Admin Proc. 7.44, Instrument Inventory and Distribution for Schools