



Marysville School District

Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

Office of the Superintendent

Jason Thompson

October 15, 2019

To Marysville School District Stakeholders:

Research shows that children who participate in instrumental music activities perform better in math, science, history, international languages, literature, writing, and computer sciences. In addition, instrumental music activities teach and encourage teamwork and self-discipline. Certainly not all students want to participate in instrumental music. But for those who do, and whose families cannot afford a musical instrument, this becomes an insurmountable barrier to the full basic education guaranteed to all students by the Washington State Constitution. The challenge has been in supporting individual students and their families with much needed musical instruments.

Music4Life (www.Music4Life.org) is a non-profit community-wide activity that was started as a demonstration project for Seattle Public Schools and is now being implemented in the Auburn, Bremerton, Edmonds, Everett, Highline, Kent, Northshore, and Shoreline school districts. It has been endorsed by former State Superintendent of Public Instruction Randy Dorn and has twice received the coveted "Friend of Music" award from the Washington Music Educators Association (WMEA). Music4Life now provides hundreds of ready-to-play musical instruments at no charge to participating public school districts.

Please know that the Music4Life inclination to work with district staff and community members on behalf of students in our school district has both my full support and appreciation. Thank you so much for all you do to support our school district's Marysville and Tulalip students and families.

Sincerely,

Jason Thompson
Superintendent