

Music in Boyertown



Dion Betts, Ed.D., Superintendent
Michael Jordan, Lead Teacher for Fine Arts

How Did We Win the Award?

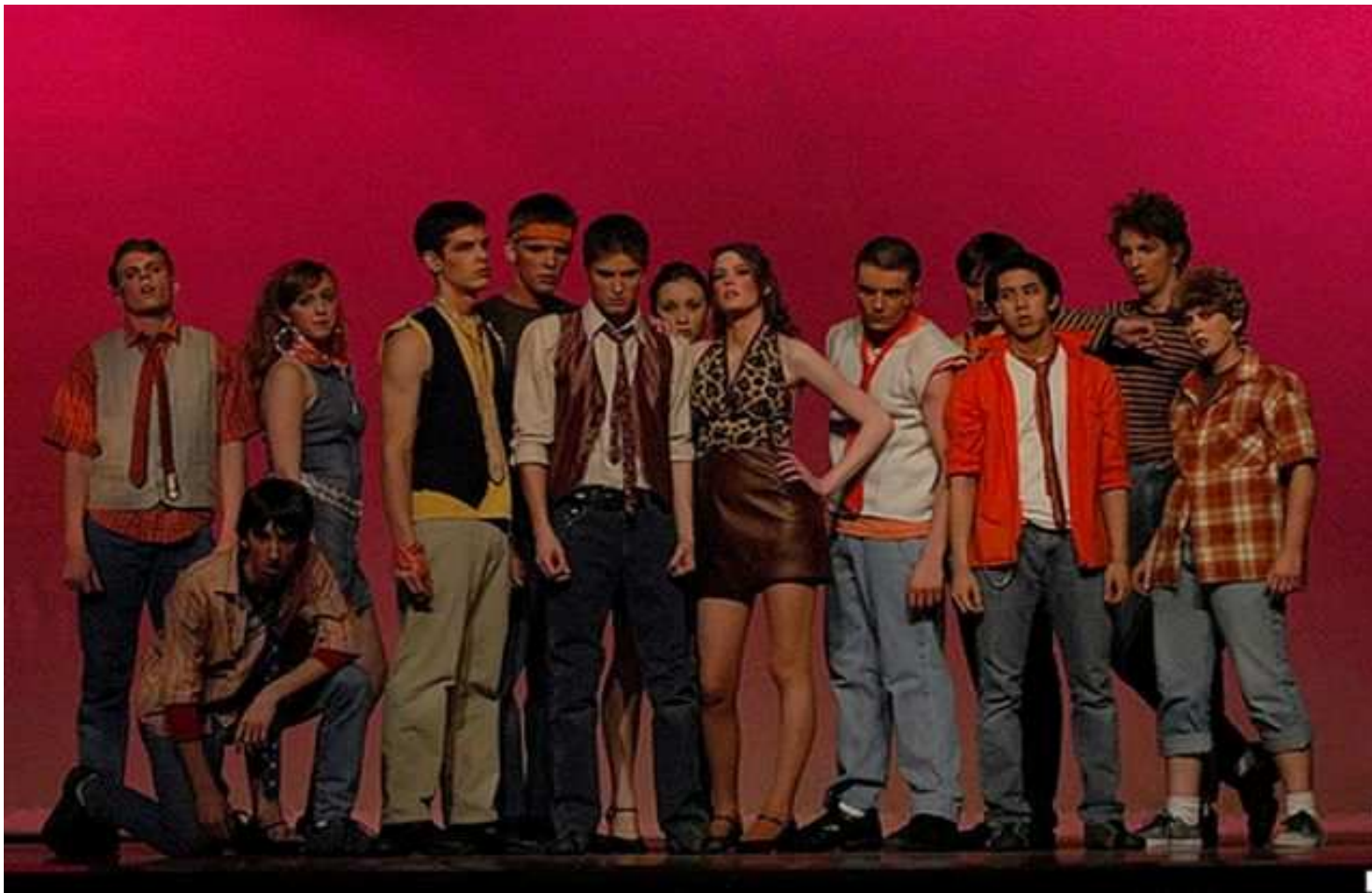
Indicators used in the national survey:

- Funding
- Graduation requirements
- Music class participation
- Instruction time
- Facilities
- Support for the music program
- Community support and involvement



Our Music Program at a Glance

Serving 7,000 Students, One Student at a Time



Student Music & Theater Participation

	Level		Total
	Senior High	Junior High	
Band Front	8	8	16
Chamber Choir	16	n/a	16
Chorus 7	n/a	208	208
Concert Choir	135	286	421
Jazz Ensemble	32	23	55
Marching Band	75	110	185
Musicals	125	135	260
Senior Class Play	12	n/a	12
Show Choir	41	82	123
String Ensemble	26	30	56
String Quartet	12	n/a	12
Orchestra	65	106	171
Treble Singers	30	n/a	30
Vocal Ensemble	n/a	73	73
Total	577	1061	1638*

*The totals may include the same students involved in more than one activity.

Elementary Music - Grades 1-6

General Music

Classroom instruction 1x per week, Kindergarten every other week.

- Orff instruments, tone chimes, percussion instruments, recorders, singing
- Grade level programs in each building that involve EVERY student in a speaking or singing part (1 to 2 per school)

**Rock and Roll show with every student in a grade
has a part in the show**

***Creating a memorable musical experience
at each level of instruction***

Elementary Music - Grades 1-6

Voice

Vocal Ensembles - Auditioned

A Culture of Singers. One trend: more males than what is typically found in school districts. Lots of male sopranos.

Chorus – All students have an opportunity to participate in chorus. Close to 70% of students participate in chorus (5th & 6th chorus).

Elementary Music - Grades 1-6

Instrumental

Creating a culture of musicians, which has led to excellent participation in the elementary instrumental program

Small group lessons once per week with a large ensemble rehearsal every other week

- **Junior Orchestra** – grades 3 and 4
- **Senior Orchestra** – grades 5 and 6
- **Junior Band** – grades 4 and 5
- **Senior Band** – grades 5 and 6
- **Jazz Ensemble**

Junior High Music – Grades 7 – 9

General Music Class

- Moving towards a performance-based class where students experience and create music rather than listen and analyze.

Orchestra & Band

- Both ensembles meet every other day for 40 minutes. Students also receive a small group lesson once per cycle.
- **Orchestra** is one ensemble for grades 7-9. Also an auditioned Select Ensemble which combines students from both East and West. 4-5 performances each year.
- **Marching Unit**
- **Concert Band**
- **Band** – one ensemble for grades 7-9. 7-8 performances each year. East and West Junior High School bands frequently combine.

Junior High Music – Grades 7 – 9

Chorus

- **Chorus** for 7th grade which meets in 3-4 sections (about 30 students) 120 students
- **Concert Choir** for 8th & 9th grade in two sections (meets twice per cycle) ~ 200 students
- **Show Choir** - An auditioned ensemble (meets twice per cycle)
- **Musicals** – Full scale productions – 65 students

A number of students are in band, orchestra, concert choir, and show choir. Sometimes up to 10 periods of music per cycle (6 day rotation)!

Senior High Music – Grades 10 - 12

- **Keyboarding**

Students have an opportunity to learn basic keyboarding skills. Helps to bring in some of the students that would not be in a traditional performing ensemble.

- **AP Music Theory**

Learning the foundations of harmony, melody ear training, and composition in preparation for the AP music exam.

Senior High Music – Grades 10 - 12

Choir

- **Women's Choir**
- **Concert Choir** – PMEA twice in the past 5 years
- **Show Choir** – Selected to perform at the **MENC All-Eastern Division Conference** in April.
- **Chamber Choir** – An auditioned ensemble of 10-12 students



Senior High Music – Grades 10 – 12

Symphony Orchestra

Select Ensemble, String Ensemble

Concert Band – 4 performances annually

Jazz Ensemble – Performed at MENC All Eastern Convention in 200

Performing at the PMEA convention in April (1 of 2 high school jazz ensembles).
10 performances annually.

Senior High Music – Grades 10 – 12

International Performing Arts Tour – every 3 years

- April 2012 will be the 14th tour to Prague, Vienna, and Salzburg
- 225 students – open to all students in music groups
- Also an Observer Tour which includes parents, school board members, and other members of the community
- Performed at the Vatican, Rome, Florence, Siena, Verona. Romania (during communism), England, Belgium, France, and Germany, festivals

Senior High Music – Grades 10 - 12

Marching Unit

- 17 performances a year
- Cavalcades – recent state champion
- Parades
- Games



Senior High Music – Grades 10 – 12

Musical Productions

- Large scale production that involves nearly 100 students
- Musical Cast, Stage Crew, Pit Orchestra
- Many community volunteers
- Costumers, set designers, pit orchestra members
- Stage crew (own culture)
- West Side Story, Les Miserables, Beauty and the Beast

Continuous Professional Development

Lead Teacher for Fine Arts

Observe curriculum in action, Constantly working towards a unified curriculum across all buildings. Provides the materials that are necessary to teach the curriculum as it has been developed by the teachers.

Also coordinates international tour and all events related to district fine arts activities.

Summer Symposium

With well known experts in the field of music education

John Feierabend
Sanna Longden
Peter Boonshaft

Other Indicators of Success

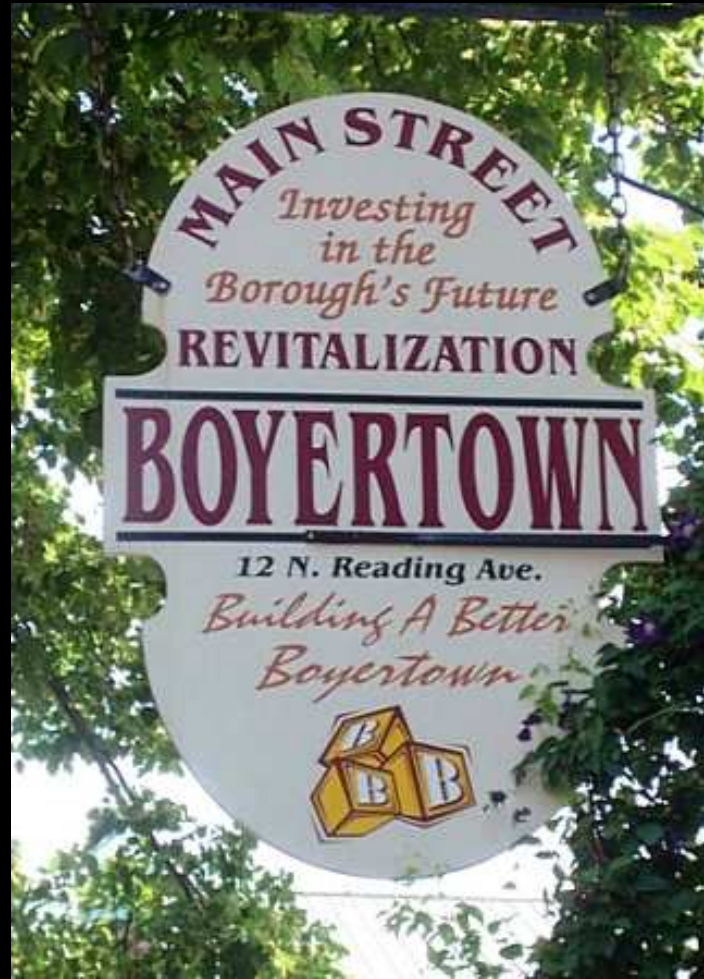
Large number of performing ensembles

Low attrition rate from year to year

Many students have gone on to careers in music
(~ 15 per year)

A number of former students are currently
teaching in the district!

Community Support



Reading Musical Foundation



Support and encouragement of individual students:

Use of world class instruments

Private instruction

Scholarships to universities

Performance opportunities

Boyertown Area Music League



Music parent organization that supports the music programs K-12

This is unique in that many Booster organizations are geared towards supporting one ensemble or one building

The Cavalcade of Bands



Arlen Saylor

Mr. Saylor hosted the first Cavalcade of Bands competition in September 1959. He did a tremendous amount to promote the Cavalcade of Bands in its infancy and won championships in 1959, 1963, and 1964. He taught at **Boyertown HS** from 1955-1985.

A Fantastic Community Tradition of Involvement

The Alumni Band – Has existed for over 30 years. Many graduates have continued to perform with this ensemble in local parades and in the annual Winter and Spring concerts.

The Director's Band – A community jazz ensemble that includes many current and former Boyertown band directors. Performances at the Sunnybrook Ballroom in Pottstown, the Jazz Base, and other community venues.

Students have an opportunity to sit-in with this group during rehearsals and performances, providing a semi-professional experience.

Did You Know?

Boyertown Opera House

**Thriving theater until it burned down in 1908
taking 170 lives.**



Alex



Concert Choir, Show Choir, Chamber Choir, Band (Trombone & pit), County, District, Region, and All-State Choir, Orchestra (bass), piano soloist, accompanies the choir, lead in the musical, National Merit Finalist, AP Theory, AP everything (5) this term, 800 math SATs, and also a member of the Golf Team.

Aaron

Orchestra and Concert Choir throughout high school. The high school performed West Side Story and needed some tough-looking guys to be in the “gangs.” He was encouraged to audition, made the cast, and absolutely loved it! Provided full scholarship to Kutztown University to play football. He quit the team because it interfered with Orchestra rehearsal.

Ralph Meitzler



Former BASH student who recently made his Broadway debut in **Rock of Ages**.

ROCK OF AGES

We Take Music Seriously



finale



For a copy of this presentation, email Michael Jordan at:

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