Executive Summary: Music Department Planned Instructions

Summary:

Two planned instructions are attached for review. One is for Homeroom Orchestra and one is for Homeroom Madrigals. Currently on the record are planned courses for both of these musical groups which are one full credit that meet for one full period every day. In recent discussion, the music department talked about these homeroom options as a way to keep students actively involved in one or more musical groups despite busy academic schedules. In two of our schools, this opportunity is already being offered to students and there have been some discrepancies in the way it has been administered with regard to students receiving credit.

To remedy the situation and offer equitable opportunities to all students, the music department has written these planned instructions. These planned instructions are very similar to the full period version of the course with some reduced expectations in terms of sight reading and ear training and number of pieces that the students would be responsible for learning. Students will gain less musical theory in this course than in the full year course, but should benefit tremendously from the performance opportunities and expectations.

Since the music department intends to hold students to the performance expectations that students taking the full credit course would have, they would like to suggest that the District allow students to earn one-half credit for completing 22 minutes or class daily for one full school year. These students will be spending 66 hours in the classroom as compared to the 60 hours that we would award .5 credit to for a semester course so the .5 credit award would be comparable to a semester course.

Administrative Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors approves the planned instructions for music as presented.