



Sharon Williams, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

To: RIMSD 41 Board of Education
From: Dr. Sharon Williams
Cabinet Champion: Annaka Whiting, Chief Financial Officer
Date: February 10, 2026
Re: Band & Orchestra Instrument Replacement

As a result of environmental conditions and microbial growth identified last summer at Rock Island High School, a number of band and orchestra instruments sustained damage and are no longer suitable for instructional use. District administration worked closely with the Band Director and confirmed plans with the Orchestra Director to identify affected instruments and assess replacement needs. A claim was submitted to the District's insurance carrier for the damaged instruments; however, the loss was not approved for coverage.

Based on instructional priorities and program needs, the replacement of damaged instruments will be phased over a three-year period. This approach allows the District to restore critical instructional capacity while managing fiscal impact.

The estimated total replacement cost for all damaged instruments is approximately \$600,000, with expenditures spread across three fiscal years. The initial purchase, in the amount of \$131,413.57, is proposed to be made through Sweetwater. As Sweetwater is a vendor used districtwide, it is recommended that the Board approve a spending threshold not to exceed \$150,000 for the remainder of the year to allow for other necessary and previously planned purchases.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the purchase of replacement instruments from Sweetwater, 5501 US HWY 30 W, Fort Wayne, IN 46818 for \$131,413.57, and increase the spending threshold to \$150,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Investment Period: July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026
Total Investment: \$150,000
Funding Source: District Funds