

## Statement for Board Meeting

1 message

Annie Naranjo-Rivera <annierosalie@icloud.com>

To: Kathie Sellars <kathies@nknsd.org>

Cc: Jacob Van Buskirk <vanbuskirkjacob@gmail.com>

Wed, Feb 8, 2023 at 6:42 PM

Please submit the following comment to the Board members and I would also like to speak at the meeting about the importance of our music program. The following family members would also like to speak:

Annie Naranjo-Rivera (self)
Jacob Vanbuskirk (step dad)
Yukon Norris-Rivera (age 15-student)
Coltrane Simmons-Rivera (age 10-student)
Juniper Naranjo-Rivera (age 4-former student)

My written comments:

"WE NEED FULL SUPPORT FOR OUR KIDS MUSIC PROGRAM!!!

Music is a fundamental part of educating children. Statistics show all of the numerous benefits of children being involved in music, from improving mental health, to decreased involvement in drugs, crime and gangs, to increased attendance and test scores. However, one need only to attend one of Michael Simpson's music classes to see the benefits firsthand. It would be an unfathomable mistake to deny our children the opportunity to participate in a robust and expanded music program in our district. Considering what has happened to the music program while my children (spanning ages 15 to 4) have attended school in the NKN school district, I would STRONGLY recommend and encourage the leadership to take steps in the right direction at this juncture. We must invest in music education and support these experiences for our kids, not stuff our music program into a gymnasium with plastic tubes ("boom whackers") and expect miracles from this overworked and undervalued teacher we are so blessed to have. Please do the right thing!"

Thank you,

Annie

Sent from my iPhone