



NORTH SLOPE
BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Striving For Excellence

Qatqinñiagvik Music Program

NEWSLETTER

March, 2019



WELCOME

The North Slope Borough School District has incredible potential to excel in the Arts. Students and community members around the District have voiced a need for more music in the villages. Music not only gives students another positive outlet, but it is important to the Iñupiaq culture during singspirations, festivals, and other gatherings. The Qatqinñiagvik Music Program provides the opportunity for every student, from Kindergarten to 12th grade, to either build on the skills and knowledge they already have, or to begin their musical journey with a solid foundation.

MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Our students are connecting music theory to playing instruments like guitar, ukulele and piano.



TEAMWORK

Students are learning to work as individuals, and as team members to accomplish the goal of their projects.



MUSIC PRODUCTION

Our music program offers students the opportunity to gain skills and hands on experience with recording and using digital audio workstations.





Bridging the GAP!

Let's get creative! The Iñupiat people have been surviving in the Arctic for thousands of years despite the severely dangerous temperatures and lack of resources. This is due to the great minds of past generations creating parkas to keep their body warm, mukluks to protect their feet, and umiaks to hunt whales for food. They even made a musical instrument called the qilaun, an Iñupiaq drum. That same creativity lies within each and every student in our District.

Teachers in our village schools that were hired to teach core classes like math and science, have tried their best to accomodate the desire for music classes as much as possible. We, as the Qatqĩññaġvik department, now have the ability to help them. We are able to team up with any teacher at a particular site to bring musical instruction. This can be done through on-site visits, flying students out or teachers in for intensive courses, and distance delivery via videoconferencing platforms like *Zoom*. It takes a lot of creative ideas to make this work around shifting sports' schedules, technology issues, and teacher turnover.

With this team effort, kids from Elementary to High School can finally start their journey down the road of music performance and production. Imagine our students bridging together the skills to create from their ancestors, and the knowledge of performing and recording music from our schools. Sky is the limit!



Distance Delivery

Many miles of land separates our communities physically, therefore, some sacrifices are made when it comes to equal opportunity in education. Today, technology allows the reality of distance delivery classes, even here above the Arctic Circle. We are committed to reaching every site as much as possible.