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MARIACHI PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION RATIONALE

It is the goal of the _____ Public Schools to implement a Mariachi Education Program with the objective of providing students of various ethnicities with an exceptional educational experience that would expand their cultural awareness and promote a lifelong appreciation for music. The program would offer students, many of them from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, a high-quality musical experience of a multigenerational tradition rooted in a sound, sequential, standards-based curriculum. Additionally, students would develop sensitivity, understanding, and respect for peoples from a broad spectrum of ethnic-cultural backgrounds.

Program Goals

- Students will gain an understanding of the historical development of mariachi music.
- Students will explore and experiment with different musical styles and techniques to further their understanding of improvisation and musical interpretation.
- Students will gain confidence in their abilities as individual musicians and as members of a group.
- Students will participate in high-quality musical experiences from an established musical tradition.
- Students will gain an understanding of musical form.
- Students will gain and develop a lifelong appreciation of and interest in music.
- Students will develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, and a sense of personal responsibility as they increase their performance skills.

Objectives

- To develop an appreciation for musical form and its development
- To understand regional and historical variations of mariachi music
- To develop the ability to successfully demonstrate a variety of mariachi skills and techniques using appropriate instruments
- To incorporate traditional rhythms used in mariachi music into musical performances
- To increase awareness of the literal and emotional content of music