



Holland Patent's Music Education Program Receives National Recognition

District is one of 4% of school districts in nation to receive distinction

The Holland Patent Central School District has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education. Holland Patent is one of 147 districts across the state receiving the prestigious award in 2017.

The Best Communities Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students. To qualify for the Best Communities designation, Holland Patent music faculty answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, and community music-making programs. Responses were verified with school officials and reviewed by The Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.

"Music enriches the student experience in ways that are beyond measurement," said Dr. Cheryl Venettozzi, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance. "Outstanding work by all the students and teachers! HP Administration is proud to support the music program!"

This award recognizes that Holland Patent is leading the way with music learning opportunities as outlined in the new federal education legislation, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The legislation, signed into law in December 2015, and awaiting state implementation designates music and the arts as important elements of well-rounded education for all children.

As Holland Patent finalizes its 2017-2018 budget, The NAMM Foundation's Best Communities for Music Education Award and the state level implementation of the federal ESSA law bring attention to the importance of keeping music education's curricular and extracurricular offerings available to all students. It also highlights music's vital role in students' overall success in school and the personal benefits of making music.

About The NAMM Foundation

The NAMM Foundation is a nonprofit supported in part by The National Association of Music Merchants and its approximately 10,300 members around the world. Its mission is to advance active participation in music making across the lifespan by supporting scientific research, philanthropic giving, and public service programs. For more information about The NAMM Foundation, please visit www.nammfoundation.org.