

Performing Arts

Presentation to the Finance Subcommittee
January 22, 2020



Budget Presentation

Purpose

- ✓ Educate School Committee and public on key areas of PSB including programs, services, and departments
- ✓ Presentations typically will include a combination of background information about area, and also costs, cost drivers, staffing, and challenges
- ✓ Presentations on areas requested by School Committee, ongoing public interest, and those identified by Superintendent

Intention is to provide a level of transparency and detail not typically provided about programming and costs



Budget Presentation

Purpose

- ✓ Educate School Committee and public on Performing Arts Program

General Description

The PSB Performing Arts Program includes:

- ✓ General Music K-5
- ✓ 4th through 8th grade Conservatory
 - **4th Grade** - every PSB student studies a string instrument (violin, viola, cello or upright bass) or band instrument (clarinet, flute, trumpet, trombone, or percussion)
 - **5th Grade** - students who continue with instrument take Band or Orchestra, students who don't or prefer singing take Chorus
 - **6th, 7th and 8th Grades** - All 6-8th graders meet at same time and choose from Band, Orchestra, Chorus, Guitar/Ukulele, Music Production or General Music
- ✓ Brookline High School
 - Rich and comprehensive programs at all levels in Music, Drama and Dance
- ✓ Extracurricular after school programs in Music, Drama and Dance



Program Structure



Grade Level	Instructional Time	Delivery Model
K - 3	80 minutes per week (some schools schedule for 90 minutes per week)	General Music (2x 40 minutes)
4 - 5	90 minutes per week	Conservatory (1x 45 minutes) and General Music (1x 45 minutes)
6 - 8	90 minutes per week	Conservatory (2x 45)
9 - 12	Graduation requirement of 3 elective credits in three elective departments (potentially 1 - 3 credits in Performing Arts)	~435 minutes over 10 days per class

FTE

Number of FTE (including coordinator):

- ✓ 1 full-time (1.0 FTE) K-12 Curriculum Coordinator, who also teaches one 1/2-credit music class at BHS
- ✓ 19.5 FTE - K-8 Music
- ✓ 6.65 FTE - BHS Music, Drama and Dance (0.4 of which is Arts Infusion at Winthrop House and in Special Education)
- ✓ 0.4 FTE - BHS PA Technician Aide (not-teacher salary scale)

Number of Shared FTE:

- ✓ 1.0 FTE - General Music
- ✓ Traveling 4-8 Conservatory teachers work at multiple elementary schools



Other Information



PSB Performing Arts is a nationally recognized program. We support students at all experience and ability levels in heterogeneous, mixed grade level classes. The foundation of our work involves developing the essential life and academic skills of students learning how to:

- ✓ Collaborate with peers to create ensemble
- ✓ Analyze their process critically and creatively
- ✓ Problem solve individually and with peers
- ✓ Develop and express their voice in artistic endeavors
- ✓ Connect to a cultures and traditions from around the world
- ✓ Learn the art of revision through the rehearsal process
- ✓ Learn to present and perform in public

Students in our Performing Arts program present over 50 shows yearly, earn many awards and perform with many renowned artists. Some include:

- ✓ Mass Education Theater Guild Awards & Emerson College Festival Awards
- ✓ Regional, All-State and National District Music Awards
- ✓ Berklee Music Festival Honors, MICCA Competition gold rating and performance at Symphony Hall
- ✓ Master classes with Alvin Ailey, Jazz legend Billy Pierce and PSB graduate Grace Kelly, West African dancer and musician Sidi Mohamed Camara, PSB graduate Nik Walker (Aaron Burr in Hamilton), and many others...

Benefits & Challenges

Benefits for K-8 schools and students:

- ✓ Conservatory model of multiple sections meeting at the same time saves 3.4FTE over if we had separate music classes for each homeroom.
- ✓ 4th through 8th grade Conservatory, Performing Arts offers more student choice than any other subject matter at the elementary level.
- ✓ At the K-8 level, music class allows classroom teachers their contractual 40 minute prep period.
- ✓ Conservatory facilitates common planning time for all 4th grade and 5th grade homeroom teachers.
- ✓ 6-8 Conservatory facilitates common planning time for all 6-8 teachers.
- ✓ Students develop skills in Performing Arts that form the backbone of a rich, high profile, year-long extracurricular performances.

Challenges:

- ✓ Limited time for music at the K-8 level with only 80 minutes of music weekly for k-3 and 90 minutes of music weekly for 4-8.
- ✓ Shared staffing creates challenges with K-8 scheduling across all schools
- ✓ Performing Arts subjects take a back seat to 'academic' subjects
- ✓ Elective enrollment at BHS does not reflect the number of students who request PA classes due to scheduling issues.

