

*“Musical training is a more potent instrument than any other, because rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul.”*  
*Plato*

## PHILOSOPHY

Music is as much a part of our present culture as it is a part of our cultural heritage. People must feel as well as think; they must create as well as discover and learn. We must help them to cultivate a sensitivity to the world of sound, form, and color, just as we must enable them to acquire the intellectual and academic tools of thought. A well-balanced elementary music program provides the basis for later music appreciation and participation, both in school and as an adult.

The artistic and musical side of the human being provides great potential for shaping the world in which we live for personal satisfaction. All children respond to music and grow musically in an environment where music is a part of the regular school program.

Music is an academic discipline which has a language of its own; therefore, music is an essential part of the balanced curriculum. The discipline learned in the music ensemble experience transfers and supports classroom learning in all areas. In particular, this discipline provides continuity of learning in areas such as spatial relationships, sequencing, logical thinking, language development and creative expression.

The development of musicianship is the goal of the program as well as the recognition of individual and special needs of children.

The ultimate aim is to enrich the lives of children - aesthetically, socially, academically, and personally. For those students for whom further study in music is appropriate, the foundation is laid. For all students, music can be a catalyst toward the maximum development of individual potential.