

Facts About the History of the Instrumental Music Program in RCSD

PARCEL TAX HISTORY

Note: All parcel taxes need 66.7% to pass.

1993 Measure A \$90 – Yes: 49%

2005 Measure V \$85 for five years – Yes 61.7%

2009 Measure E \$91 for five years – Yes 63.6%

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM HISTORY

1988 -1993

Four music teachers serve the two middle schools – two per school. At Kennedy, band and orchestra meet in 7th period and jazz band meets before school. At McKinley, band and orchestra meet before school and jazz band is first period. The music teachers also travel to three elementary schools each and teach band and orchestra instruments in 5th and 6th grades, and guitar only in 4th grade.

1993/94

Music program cut due to failure of parcel tax measure in June of 1993.

1994/95

Music program reinstated with only two teachers.

1996/97

Steve Anderson, instrumental music teacher and music director at Woodside High School, comes to Roosevelt and teaches 5th graders. The Woodside band program is starting to suffer because the music program in the RCSD has been cut.

The RCEF provides funds to pay for music instruction for 2nd graders at seven schools, ongoing music programs at three schools, and helps to support the instrumental music program.

1997/98

Number of music teachers increases from two to three music teachers, including Carol McNamara, Ken Villegas, and Sara Salsbury.

1998/99

Vivian Euzent is hired to build a band and orchestra program at Kennedy and teach 5th graders at five feeder schools. Kennedy program is on an A/B schedule in a music room shared with a science class. Vivian restores music room and arranges for instruments for the school and teaches orchestra before school and band first period and offers tutoring after school.

As demand for music grows at Kennedy, Vivian is assigned there full time and a 4th teacher is hired to assist Carol McNamara and Sara Salsbury cover the remaining schools. Orchestra becomes a regular daytime period. 7th and 8th graders receive music every day.

The RCEF creates Music is Instrumental program to acquire donated instruments and funds for instrumental music classes.

2005/6

Due to failure of parcel tax Measure V in May 2005, district proposes cutting music program. In response to community support, district is able to continue funding the program.

2008/07

Private donor funds assistant at Kennedy to help with tutoring and administrative work.

District is able to spare instrumental music, in spite of deep cuts in state funding, due to funding received through the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

2009/10

Kennedy returns to A/B schedule. Students meet 5 out of every 10 class days for about 50 minutes each. For all the other schools in the district, instrumental music is a pull-out program. Teachers serving those schools schedule two half-hour classes each week. At some schools classes are held after the school day.

Music program reaches its highest ever enrollment at 950 students.

District puts instrumental music on list of proposed cuts for 2011/12, due to failure of June 2009 Measure E parcel tax measure.

Sources:

Barbara Pierce
Carol McNamara
Lori McBride
Vivian Euzent
RCEF archives