Naomi R Wright

**Teaching Philosophy**

Music education is meaningful and uniquely valuable for several reasons. Students learn the following: how to sing and play an instrument, how to read music, expression and empathy, and that music serves multiple purposes. Students learn to express themselves using a system of notation and structure. Once students learn how to read music they apply this to an instrument and express themselves on their instruments. The context behind the music shows students how other artists use music to express themselves and teaches empathy. Historical and cultural information show that music can be used in many different ways such as for recreational purposes, telling stories, or showing devotion. Music is especially unique, because students learn to synthesize multiple sources of information including their own personal experiences and transmit their feelings to an audience.

The national 2014 music education standards suggest students should be able to create, perform, respond and connect. Based on these standards students will learn theory and form so that they can read and write music. It is important that students use historical and cultural contexts as a foundation to make artistic and creative decisions. Students will listen to a variety of music to help them understand the many reasons other artists and people from different backgrounds use music. Last, students will have many performance opportunities in which they will learn how to convey their own interpretations.

As a music educator I plan empower my students, maintain high expectations for every student, provide my students with a comprehensive music education and to continue seeking growth opportunities. My music curriculum will be enriching. My students will read and write music, experience music from other cultures, and apply historical information to music. Additionally, I believe it is important for students to share their creations and music with communities and for the community to share their passions with students. Therefore, I plan to provide my students with an array of performance experiences within the community and opportunities to learn from community members. I believe maintaining high expectations, in students’ capabilities for learning music and behavior, help to construct an environment in which students feel safe to explore, learn, express, and create. Finally, I plan to seek advice from other teachers, learn from student feedback, and draw from resources so that I can provide my students with an exceptional music education.