



Indianapolis Public Schools

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Eugene G. White, Ed.D.
Superintendent

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Superintendent of Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS), I am deeply honored to write this letter of support and endorsement for "Music for All". Since assuming the position of "leader" of this mid-west urban school district in July of 2005, I have witnessed, first hand, the immeasurable impact that "Music for All" has had on IPS' student musicians and educators.

Each year, "Music for All" provides our high school band programs the opportunity to showcase their talent in the grandeur of Lucas Oil Stadium at the Bands of America Grand National Championship. The locally headquartered non-profit allocates a portion of its annual fundraising dollars to cover the cost of full-tuition scholarships at the Music for All Summer Symposium for some talented IPS musicians. Over 120 IPS students have enjoyed spending a week on the campus of Illinois State University learning from nationally recognized educators. IPS students and teachers have grown from the collegiate mentors hired by Music for All to provide free private lessons and in-service programs during and after school.

The IPS-Music for All partnership has resulted in an increased desire for achievement. IPS' student musicians' graduation rate is more than double the district rate and it surpasses the national graduation average of 71%. As a result of tracking IPS students involved in high school band programs who have been directly involved in Music for All programming, the IPS Office of Research and Assessment has verified that these students have graduated at a 78% rate. This 7 point increase above the national graduation average is not accidental or happenstance. It is the consistent result of discipline, hard work and purpose. These attributes are the gifts of Music for All.

In light of these facts, I am even more committed to supporting music education in our school system and I am truly grateful for our strong partnership with this national organization. Music for All is making an indelible impact on our students, our schools and our community.

Sincerely,

Eugene G. White, Ed.D.