

Dear Music Staff-

I'm proud to announce that the **South Brunswick School District has been honored with a 2018 Best Communities for Music Education designation by the NAMM Foundation** for its outstanding commitment to music education! South Brunswick is 1 of 38 districts in NJ and 1 of 583 school districts across the nation receiving this prestigious honor.

<https://www.nammfoundation.org/articles/2018districts>

Thank you for bringing your talents and passion for music education to our students each and every day! We are privileged to have each of you as part of our K-12 district music family. Congratulations on this national designation!

*The Best Communities Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students. To qualify for the Best Communities designation, we answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, district music offerings, music instruction time, facilities, staffing, support for the music program, and community music-making programs. Responses were verified with school officials and reviewed by The Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.*

*This award recognizes that South Brunswick is leading the way with learning opportunities as outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The legislation guides implementation in the states and replaces the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) which was often criticized for an overemphasis on testing-while leaving behind subjects such as music. ESSA recommends music and the arts as important elements of a well-rounded education for all children.*

#### **About The NAMM Foundation**

The NAMM Foundation is a nonprofit supported in part by the National Association of Music Merchants and its approximately 10,300 members around the world. The foundation advances active participation in music making across the lifespan by supporting scientific research, philanthropic giving, and public service programs. For more information about the NAMM Foundation, please visit [www.nammfoundation.org](http://www.nammfoundation.org).

