The Eastern School District recognizes that Band/Instrumental and all Music Programs are important to the emotional and intellectual growth of students. The District believes that such programs may help students develop into well-rounded, skilled, and confident individuals.

It is also recognized that Band/Instrumental programs are presently not available to all students in the Eastern School District. However, inasmuch as it is practically possible to do so, it is the position of the Board that all students in our jurisdiction should have an equal opportunity to access all approved programs.

It is the practice of the District to provide space for approved Band/Instrumental Programs, to duly consider the teaching expertise required during the evaluation and staffing of school personnel, to authorize the staffing of a District Department Head for the Band/Instrumental Programs, and to work with the Department Head to address ongoing program concerns. On occasion, the District has also provided financial assistance to assist in the maintenance of band instruments.

Currently, schools that offer a Band/Instrumental Program finance the program by collecting band fees and through other fund-raising efforts. New and existing Band/Instrumental Music Programs will continue to be operationally funded through the collection of Board determined band fees and by other fund-raising endeavours.

To the extent that it deems possible, the Eastern School District will continue to offer the appropriate assistance to those schools interested in starting a Band/Instrumental Music Program. The District will also explore opportunities to offer start-up financial assistance to those schools.

Prior approval of the Eastern School Board is required before a school can implement or expand a Band/Instrumental Music Program.