

# Education Update

## Chorus Of Support For Music Class

### Anchored by Supportmusic.com

(NAPSA)—While many school districts are considering scaling back their music curriculum, a growing number of parents and teachers are singing the praises of music class—and their opinions are often backed by studies. For example:

- U.S. Department of Education data shows that students who report consistently high levels of involvement in instrumental music over the middle and high school years show “significantly higher levels of math proficiency by grade 12.”

- Students with coursework or experience in music performance and music appreciation scored higher on the SAT than those with no music experience.

- Grade school children who used piano keyboard training and newly designed math software showed a “demonstrable” improvement in math skills.

Educators and parents have joined an initiative called “Support Music,” anchored by information available on [supportmusic.com](http://supportmusic.com). The program is dedicated to positively impacting community resolve and inspiring action to support music education in the U.S. The initiative was recently launched by the Music Education Coalition, an entity created by MENC (the National Association for Music Education) and NAMM (the International Music Products Association).



**Studies show music classes have a positive effect on students' math scores.**

A key component of Support Music is its unique Web site, [www.supportmusic.com](http://www.supportmusic.com). It serves as an easy to use resource of information on how parents and community members can work to ensure music is an integral part of education for all children.

The site focuses on reaching parents and teachers who are facing massive school music program cuts, and providing them with the tools needed to take action on behalf of their children's educations and futures. The site's “Build Your Case” feature presents tailored information on specific challenges to music education. Support Music partners include: VH1 “Save the Music,” Mr Holland's Opus Foundation, and the Country Music Association.

For more information, visit [www.supportmusic.com](http://www.supportmusic.com).