



Need-To-Knows from the Advocacy Chair

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Greetings from the new Advocacy Chair on the MMEA Executive Board!

At the end of September, the NAFME Advocacy Leadership Force (ALF) held their monthly zoom meeting with Jazzmone Sutton (NAfME's State Advocacy Engagement Manager) and Tooshar Swain (NAfME Director of Public Policy & Advocacy). All around the country, music teachers are experiencing both the joys of being back in-person with students, and the challenges of returning to some old systematic issues during the ongoing pandemic. If you would like something about Maryland to be shared with this awesome nationwide committee, please email me, and I'll include your thoughts in my state report!



Return to Music: Phase III Guidance and Resources

Looking for more details on keeping students safe *and* advocating for your program? Take a look at the updated guidance from NAFME and NFHS:

<https://nafme.org/my-classroom/nafme-and-nfhs-return-to-music-guidance-phase-iii-august-2021/>

Have you heard of ESSER Funds?



Currently, 20 states and DC have included music in their state plans for ESSER funding, but Maryland is not one of them. We need to ask how these funds will be allocated at the county level, and ensure that music is included!

<https://nafme.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/ESSER-Funding-Toolkit-2021.pdf>



SAFER SCHOOLS AND CAMPUSES BEST PRACTICES CLEARINGHOUSE

Maryland music educators are among the best in the country. The US Department of Education is accepting lessons for their Best Practices Clearinghouse- you are encouraged to submit lessons to this incredible national collection!

<http://bestpracticesclearinghouse.ed.gov/submit-best-practices.html>



NAFME PUBLIC POLICY HUB

LEARN ABOUT THE PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES IMPACTING MUSIC EDUCATION.

What You Can Do- NAFME resources for students, parents, educators and other stakeholders to advocate for music education in the community:

<https://nafme.org/advocacy/what-you-can-do/>