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ON THE UPBEAT

Hillsborough County Elementary Music Educators' Council

<http://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us>

HCEMEC Executive Board

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Good News
from the HCEMEC

Hillsborough County Public Schools

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Welcome back to school! My name is Jeff Henson, Music Teacher at Hammond Elementary, and I am President of the Hillsborough County Elementary Music Educators Council (HCEMEC) for the 2015-2016 school year. I hope the new school year finds you rested, energized and ready to make great things happen in your classroom! The new school year means new beginnings filled with infinite possibilities for our students, and the Music Council is here to help you reach those possibilities through the many ways we serve you and your students. It is both an honor and pleasure to serve as President along side the hard-working, talented and passionate teachers that comprise our Executive Board and leadership team, and who are dedicated to the success of students in every music classroom.

Over the years, HCEMEC and its work has grown to become a vital part of the District's musical success story. As committee chairs, the members of our leadership team overseas many great programs such as Fine Arts Festival, Young Songwriter's Symposium, Music PLC's, Multicultural Festival, Fine Arts Banquet, Professional Development, Mentoring, FMEA Convention, and Advocacy, just to name a few. In addition to these programs, the Music Council awards grant money to many teachers which has helped them accomplish great things in the classroom. Look for information about applying for these grants later in the school year.

Above: Sweet Biscuits and Honey perform for PSD.

Below: The Music Council Leadership Team meets over the summer to plan the year.



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President's Message

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Every two years, the Music Council makes a plan that helps to address needs not covered by our existing committees or programs. This year marks the beginning of a new two-year plan, focusing on articulating with secondary school music programs to help inspire our students to continue making music throughout their lives. As we gather information from schools that are already making musical connections with these programs, this information will help us to form a model from which we hope all students will benefit. In turn, this will open a larger door of communication with other music programs and help other educators see and understand the many amazing things we accomplish at the elementary level. More information about this plan will be forthcoming.

HCEMEC and its leadership is ready for another great year helping our teachers and students succeed in their music classroom. Once again, welcome back, and may you and your students have a school year full of infinite possibilities!

♪ Jeff Henson, HCEMEC President, Hammond Elementary



*Juan Rios, Sean Moats,
Matt Stone, Nate Straw-
bridge, Joey Willoughby,
Billy Whiting, Dann Shea,
and Sonia Miller
Rock out at the 2015
Professional Study Day as
"Sweet Biscuits and Honey"*



The Canella Elementary Rock Band, left, rocks the stage at Channelside Bay Plaza for the 2nd LKR Jam Summit



LKR Music Teachers, right, get in on the fun at the Jam Summit

LKR Jam Summit

Since it was so late in the year, it didn't make our last publication of the year, but the second Little Kids Rock Jam Summit, held on May 30th, helped kick-off Summer Vacation for many music teachers and students in rockin' fashion! The participating Little Kids Rock bands performed from 10AM to 2 PM in downtown Tampa at the Channelside Bay Plaza, and included a performance of LKR teachers jamming together too!



Summer Camp

Summer Music Camp 2015 was held at Hammond Elementary School. The 4-day camp hosted 36 students in grades 3 to 5 and had the largest attendance in the history of the camp.



Led by Hillsborough County elementary music teachers Jeff Henson, Juan Rios, and Joey Willoughby, campers participated in a variety of musical experiences including recorder playing the recorder and the guitars, world drumming, folk dance, playing Orff instruments, and more.

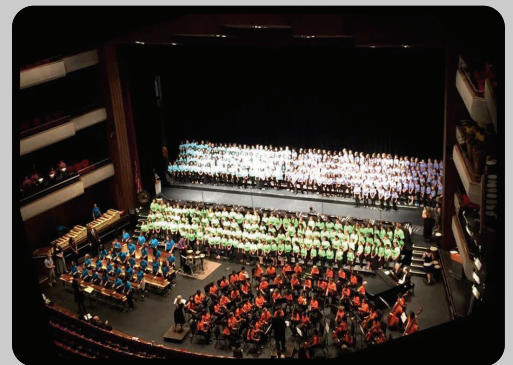


Join HCEMEC

Our mission is to provide greater opportunities for quality music education to the children of Hillsborough County through high professional standards, continuing teacher education and supporting a strong music community as advocates for lifelong music education.

The HCEMEC has sponsored Professional Development workshops by Tim Brophy, Dupont & Hiller, and Tim Wiegand. In addition, the HCEMEC helps to fund and coordinate many of the great events held each year, such as the Young Songwriters Symposium, The Multicultural Heritage Festival, and the Fine Arts Festival.

Annual dues are \$20 per member. Checks should be made out to "Music Council" and mailed via school mail to: Kim Oppermann, Seffner, Chiles Elementary, Route #6



Professional Development

Summer Music Institute

Applying Common Core Standards in the Music Room

This article is about Applying Common Core Standards in the music classroom. It is the notes taken from an in-service presentation given by Jodie Donahoo and Tracy Lisi and is the second of a series of two trainings for the music teacher.

The Common Core State Standards should be embedded within lessons throughout the school year. The use of singing, playing instruments, creating, listening, and movement should all be integral parts of each lesson. Within each component are strands or specific focus areas. Music is the anchor when connecting to English, Language arts and Math.

One strategy used is "Text Rendering". It is a reading activity that creates interaction between students and the text. Students are expected to mark their text in some way as they read. They could write on their copy or use sticky notes. They can place a check mark, exclamation or question mark as a reaction point.

Another strategy is "Close Read". The student simply listens to the music either to understand what the music is saying, why the composer wrote the music, or how the composer manipulates the instruments or elements. This helps the student understand why the composer chose that structure. Students can underline

and circle key terms or phrases which allows the information to 'stick' in their brains. They may also 'talk back' and respond to their listening. Close reading is the systematic practice of analyzing a text to gain deeper comprehension.

It is not enough to have students listen to and/or read complex informational texts; they also need to discuss and interact with each other while using academic language. We call this "Collaborative Conversation". Complex texts and listening examples take time to understand. As teachers and/or facilitators, we provide the environment for conducive listening and the opportunities for students 'turn and talk' about the music with their peers.

When writing a good lesson, make certain the student uses the appropriate vocabulary. Vocabulary is divided into three different tiers. **Tier One** is everyday words familiar to most students and primarily learned through conversation. **Tier Two** is academic vocabulary found in many context texts; cross-curricular terms. **Tier Three** is domain specific academic vocabulary. Tier two and three are the concentration points for our use.

The "Backwards-Design Template" is a great example when developing a lesson. It is a five-step sequence that will lead to a desired outcome. Step **one** is what are the desired learning results of this unit (students will acquire a working understanding of . . .)? Step **two** is what essential questions will anchor students to learning? Step **three** is what skills are needed to achieve desired results? Step **four** is what is acceptable evidence to show desired results? Step **five** is what is the sequence of activities or learning experiences, etc., that will lead to the desired results - The Plan!

In conclusion, Common Core is built on student experiences from general education. So have discussions with your colleagues about their close reading modules and the structure they are using. Learn to speak the language used in general education to facilitate connecting their world to ours. Provide cognitive models to teach students how to self-monitor and assess their own achievements. The use of the Common Core State Standards can and will allow students the ownership of their education.

♪ Thomas Floyd, Summerfield Elementary

Backward Design

Step one:

What are the desired results?

Step two:

Essential questions to anchor learning?

Step three:

What skills are needed?

Step four:

What is acceptable evidence?

Step five:

The Plan!

Professional Development

Summer Music Institute

Conversational Solfege I

The Conversational Solfege I Professional Development held in July 2015, led by Joey Willoughby, provided me with many additional and valuable resources for my "Musical Tool Box"! Joey shared many valuable and fun, hands-on, vocal, instrumental, aural, and rhythmic resources with our training group. Melanie followed up by providing my school with sets I & II of The Conversational Solfege Teacher Manuals, Flash Cards, and CD's.

As music professionals we are constantly looking for ways to enrich and enhance our classroom learning and performance based programs. Music teachers want to provide students with the best possible ways to build their levels of understanding and appreciation of music... while making their life-long-learning challenging, fun, and engaging!

Are you an overachiever? Are you always trying to reinvent the wheel? Are you a new teacher? Are you a veteran teacher? Are you a vocalist? Are you an instrumentalist? Are you both? Are you organized/disorganized? Are you overwhelmed? Are you looking for an "In the Door" activity? Are you looking for a "Do it Now" activity? Are you looking for assessment ideas? Are you looking for musical games? Are you looking for "Turn and Talk" questioning? Are you looking for higher level questioning techniques? Are you looking for simple songs with movement? Are you looking for ways to teach music vocabulary? Are you looking for a way to connect African Drums, LKR Guitars, Vocals, Orff, Ukuleles, Body Percussion, and Ensembles to the "Curriculum and Common Core"?

Conversational Solfege is a professional development training that WILL provide you with all of these, and Stress-Free resources to assist you in accomplishing your goals. I highly recommend attending the next training available on PDS.

Victoria Doud, Lee Elementary Magnet

WHEN do I begin Step 1 of the 12 Step Conversational Solfege process?

*Unit 1 is NOT First grade!
It's the first unit.
Fourth graders can begin in Unit 1 if they are new to Conversational Solfege.*



Hillsborough County Music Specialists were treated to a performance by a Steel Drum Band at Professional Study Day. Later, every teacher had the opportunity to learn about and play the Steel Drum, and then perform a song for their peers.





Professional Development

Summer Music Institute

Portfolios That



Pop!

Use it tomorrow:

—

**Create an
"All About Me" page in
your students' portfolio.
Have them fill in how
they work best (with a
partner, individually,
etc...), favorite genre of
music and what they
are most excited to
learn about in Music.
You can use this to
differentiate and guide
instruction!**

Teachers emerged from their summer hiding places to attend the fabulous training, **Portfolios that Pop!** in July, presented by the enthusiastic Kyla Bailey and Jen Edelblute. Participants learned logistics and benefits of keeping portfolios in the Music classroom - from *how* to acquire folders for ALL students to modeling lessons that would utilize them.

It was decided that keeping portfolios is a great way to show progress and maintains accountability in learning in Music - all of which can be shared with stakeholders if needed. They can contain assessments, rubrics, a glossary, close reads, and so much more. Although portfolios may be a challenge to get started, information is easily accessible to students while helping the Music teacher become better organized, and worth it in the long run! All participants seemed excited to implement their newfound knowledge in their classes this year. Why don't you give portfolios a try in *your* Music classroom?

♪ Lindsey Jones, Hunter's Green Elementary

Young Songwriters' Symposium



Professional Study Day featured a special Guest Performance by some of last year's Young Songwriters! Be sure to attend this year's Young Songwriters' Symposium Concert on November 20th.

The concert will be held at the USF Concert Hall and feature a live rock band accompanying Hillsborough's young and talented composers!



Professional Development



I know what you are thinking - a Saturday training when school just started? AND it's all day? Let me tell you, I'm so glad that I got out of bed for 'Bringing Back the Joy' presented by Tim Wiegand.



It was a day filled with dances, music, and lots of laughs. Tim led us through some of his favorite lessons, and shared great ideas throughout the training about classroom management. There are many tips and tricks I am taking away with me from this training, but the one that influenced my students the following



Monday was the idea that we need to look at our classroom through our students' eyes. I've been teaching in Hillsborough County for 8 years, and somewhere I must have forgotten this! With everything we have to remember and do while teaching, it can be easy to overlook the joy and fun the kids see potential for in the music classroom. If you didn't get the chance to attend the training this year, I hope that we can have another one in the future, because it was well worth it!

♪ Rosalie Lathers, HCEMEC Member-at-Large, Pizzo Elementary

With everything we have to remember and do while teaching, it can be easy to overlook the joy and fun the kids see potential for in the music classroom.

The Tim Wiegand Workshop was the second Professional Development opportunity presented by the HCEMEC and Kathryn Jurado, Professional Development Coordinator for the Music Council. Last year the Council presented an Orff workshop by Brian Hiller and Don Dupont. Keep an eye on the PDS for information about an up-coming workshop with Lillie Feirabend!

Supervisor's Sound-Off

Songs say so much! As Sweet Biscuits and Honey sang on Professional Study Day, "We Are Family".... to "We Are the Champions". Yes, we are!

Say "Hello!" to some new faces this year...

Bevis/Gibsonton: Maren Fernandez
Buckhorn: Aaron Trkovsky
Davis/Oak Park: Kim Meider
DeSoto: Adrienne Vander Ploeg
Doby/Corr: Andrew Young
Ippolito: Jacqueline Hall
Just: Joseph Luciano
Lake Magdalene/Morgan Woods: Travis Damato
Lincoln (Strings): Stephanie Waite
Lithia Springs: Lindsey Williams
Mabry/Alexander: Stephanie Reed Frick
Mango/Knights: Chelsea Brown-Granville
Muller (Strings): Marianne (Katie) Valdez
Potter: Rachael Phillips
Shore (Strings): Melissa Grady
Sulphur Springs: James Brannock
Turner-Bartels: Michelle Bednarek
Turner-Bartels: Sarah-Anne Griffis
Twin Lakes: Andrew Guarrine
Walden Lake/Limona: Nannette Walker
Yates/Schmidt: Deb Merrill

and to teachers who joined us in mid-year last year!

Bing: Aaron Cabrera
Burney/Robinson: Samantha Snow
FishHawk Creek: Todd LeBlanc
Seffner/Lutz: Laura Garcia
Turner-Bartels: John Knepper
Twin Lakes/Hammond: Lilibeth Proenza
Washington: Jabril Williams

Performance skills are critical to learning and experiencing music. It is not simply learning "about" music; although the "about" is important. Students need to be tuneful, beatful and artful. Remember why you are a musician and why you chose to become a music teacher!

♪ *Melanie Faulkner, Supervisor of Elementary Music*



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PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Excellence in Education

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