



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

April 2, 2019

Greetings Dr. Eileen Amato,

I write to you today, to offer my sincerest congratulations to you, your school board and your district's music faculty on being recognized as a "Best Community for Music Education" by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation.

Music has the power to connect people from all walks of life as it touches emotions and stimulates the mind. Music provides musicians and listeners an opportunity to experience something that no other academic content area possibly could. Providing students with a well-developed music education as part of your district's overall curriculum design not only supports the importance of a well-rounded education but also encourages social, historical and cultural traditions that define the nature of your community. Music matters!

This recognition comes at a time when music education and musical extra-curriculars are at their most vulnerable. Pennsylvania enjoys strong music programs in its public schools thanks to the efforts of talented and effective music teachers educated in our state's rigorous college programs, supportive school administrators, board members, and the leadership of an outstanding professional organization, the PA Music Educators Association.

Of the 623 school districts recognized nationwide as a "Best Community for Music Education" 92 are from Pennsylvania! As Secretary of the Department of Education and on behalf of all Pennsylvania educators, know that your efforts are appreciated and supported as you continue to nurture students in your community through music.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pedro A. Rivera".

Pedro A. Rivera  
Secretary of Education