Dear Administrator,

As a professional educator, you are always looking for the best practices and techniques to educate the whole child. You may have heard of the Orff Schulwerk approach to music education from your campus music teacher. Every summer, music educators from all over the world participate in two weeks of intensive and in-depth education in Orff Schulwerk principles and practices to develop their teaching skills for the benefit of their students. Support from you, your campus staff and your Parent Teacher Organization are vital for this training.

What can a music educator trained in Orff Schulwerk provide for your students and your campus?

Orff Schulwerk music and movement pedagogy contributes to development of the individual far beyond specific skills and understandings in the arts. It gives your music teacher the tools to instill 21st century learning! These skills and procedures have a wider application and value in several areas:

•Intellectual: The **critical-thinking** and problem-solving tasks involved in Orff Schulwerk call upon both linear and intuitive intellectual capacities. The carrying out of creative ideas calls upon organizational abilities as well as artistic knowledge and skill.

•Social: Orff Schulwerk is a group model, requiring the **collaboration** and cooperative interaction of everyone involved, including the instructor. Artistic development occurs within a supportive human environment, where tolerance, patience, supportiveness, and other cooperative attitudes are consciously cultivated. The ensemble setting requires sensitivity to the group context and awareness of the role of each individual within it. Problem solving, improvisation, and the group composing process provide opportunities for developing leadership.

•Emotional: The artistic media involved—music and movement—provide the individual with avenues for non-verbal expression of emotion through **communication** and **creativity**. The exploratory and improvisatory activities can provide a focus for emotions, a means for release of tension and frustration, and a vehicle for the enhancement of self-esteem.

•Aesthetic: As knowledge of and skills in music and movement grow, students will have opportunities to develop a sense of “quality” that extends beyond the musical examples.

To find out more about the Orff Schulwerk approach and the potential benefits for your students, visit our website at [www.aosa.org](http://www.aosa.org)

Join your music teacher in providing your students experiences that intersect all learning. Please support the additional training requested.