

NAfME Civic Action Field Guide

[Understanding Funding, Elections, and Advocacy](#)

Music and the Whole Child

[Music Education and SEL: An Advocacy Tool for Music Educators](#)

[2023 Study on musical participation and positive youth development \(USC\)](#)

“Findings revealed significant differences in positive youth development (PYD) scores by grade and gender, and associations between levels of musical participation and competence, a PYD component. Liking music and participation in extracurricular activities predicted scores on school connectedness, and starting formal music education before age 8 predicted scores in hopeful future expectations.”

From a 2023 [Op-Ed in the New York Times](#): *Studies show that students who play an instrument [do better in science, English and math](#) and are more likely to want to attend [college](#). They also may [have less anxiety](#) and be [more conscientious](#) – they are the kids you want your kids to be friends with. I have never met an adult who is expressly thankful to have quit music as a child, but I’ve met many who have regrets.”*

[NAfME’s Guide for a Local Advocacy Action Plan](#)

New Jersey State Legislature

The link below will take you to the home page for the NJ State Legislature. From this point, you can contact your representatives.

www.njleg.state.nj.us/Default.asp