

Talking Points for Conversations Asking for Title IV, Part A Funding for Your Music Program

Key points to know when asking for funding:

1. Some administrators might not have any idea what federal Title IV, Part A funds are. You might be helping them to understand it.
2. The best way to make a case for receiving these federal funds is a specific reasonable ask. (I would like to purchase Orff instruments for my elementary general music class because...; Adding a trip to the symphony for our class would benefit our students...)
3. Keep asks student centered and about **ACCESS** for all students.
4. If you can find ways to reference the PA ESSA plan, that helps your case. The PA ESSA plan requires schools to track chronic absenteeism and college/career readiness. Referencing either of those two points helps an administrator make their case.
5. Here is a list of some suggested uses of Title IV funds for music ed:

AREAS TO EXPLORE IN YOUR NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Musical Instruments
Sheet Music
General Music Supplies/Text Books
Performance Space Upgrades
Music Technology (Computers, tablets, software)
Curriculum Materials
Content Area Specific Professional Development
Additional Music Courses (Adding a piano or guitar class)
Music Related Field Trips

6. Reference using the NAFME Opportunity to Learn Standards and that it's a national benchmark that you've used.
7. Mentioning that you've worked with the entire music department is always important.
8. Being a schoolwide team player is important. Explain the value of using these funds for your program and how they will help all areas of the school.

