



Dear parents and students:

Welcome to the Bear Canyon Elementary Music program!

I am very excited to get to know you and begin a fantastic year of music making. A little about me, this is my second year at Bear Canyon Elementary School, before coming to BCE I was teaching elementary music in Northern Michigan. I graduated from the Michigan State University College of Music in 2013 with a B.M. in Music Education and Trumpet performance. I was born and raised in the Metro-Detroit area (however my family spent a year stationed at Buckley Air Force Base when I was 4!) but moved to Denver at the end of June. When I am not teaching I love to practice playing instruments and singing, hike, kayak, watch college football (GO GREEN!), and travel around exploring new places.

Music classes at Bear Canyon are designed to create a rich environment for students to interact in. The primary objectives for all students are to:

- 1) **Develop audiation (audiation is to music as thinking is to language)**
- 2) **Nurture beautiful singing**
- 3) **Develop awareness of how music and movement are connected**

The goal of music classes at Bear Canyon is to provide students with an enriched and challenging music experience which will help serve as a foundation for music instruction and a lifetime of musical enjoyment. These are goals are also directly linked to the DCSD's Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum. In spite of all the "formal stuff" we do in music, we do manage to have fun as well! Playing instruments, singing, chanting, improvising, composing, folk dancing, creative moving, musical play, and games are all important parts of our musical growth and development.

Keep an eye out for any notifications of future musical performances and opportunities for your child. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns about your child's musical development. I look forward to a wonderful year of music experiences with your child!

Sincerely,

Andrew Miller

Elementary General Music Teacher

BCE Choir Director

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