**Header Information**

* \*\*Date:\*\* 2025-09-10
* \*\*Submitted to:\*\* Natomas Unified School District School District
* \*\*Submitted by:\*\* Musical Instruments N Kids Hands (M.I.N.K.H.) / Music Science Group (MSG)
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**1. Introduction**

Musical Instruments N Kids Hands (M.I.N.K.H.), in partnership with Music Science Group (MSG), is pleased to submit this proposal for the Educational Learning Outreach Program (ELOP) to the Natomas Unified School District. We are confident that our innovative approach to integrating music and S.T.E.A.M. education will significantly benefit your students and enhance the overall educational experience within the district. This proposal outlines our comprehensive program designed to address specific needs within Natomas Unified, fostering student growth and development.

**2. Executive Summary**

Natomas Unified School District, like many districts, faces the challenge of providing enriching and engaging educational opportunities for all students, particularly in areas such as S.T.E.A.M. and arts integration. Access to advanced technology and resources can be limited, impacting student engagement and future opportunities. MSG/M.I.N.K.H.’s Educational Learning Outreach Program (ELOP) offers a comprehensive solution. By integrating music with cutting-edge technology and S.T.E.A.M. principles, ELOP directly addresses these challenges, fostering enhanced student engagement, improved academic performance, increased wellness, and stronger community involvement. The program's measurable outcomes will demonstrably benefit Natomas Unified students, preparing them for future success in a technology-driven world.

**3. Problem Statement**

In today's rapidly evolving technological landscape, many students, particularly in underserved communities, lack access to the advanced technology and resources that are crucial for success in S.T.E.A.M. fields. This digital divide creates significant inequalities in educational opportunities and limits future prospects. Many students may lack exposure to enriching arts programs, hindering their creative development and overall well-being. The Natomas Unified School District, while dedicated to providing quality education, may face budgetary constraints and resource limitations in fully addressing these critical needs. This lack of access to innovative, engaging, and enriching educational experiences can lead to decreased student engagement, impacting academic performance and overall student well-being.

**4. Proposed Solution - Educational Learning Outreach Program (ELOP)**

MSG/M.I.N.K.H.'s ELOP directly addresses these challenges by offering a unique, immersive learning experience that combines the power of music with S.T.E.A.M. education and wellness initiatives. Our program utilizes innovative approaches to engage students and equip them with 21st-century skills.

**Program Offerings:** MSG's enriched curriculum transforms classrooms into dynamic centers where music and technology converge. Our program includes:

* \*\*Digital music stations:\*\* Students learn to create and manipulate sound using state-of-the-art digital audio workstations.
* \*\*3D printing of instruments:\*\* Students design and build their own musical instruments, fostering creativity and problem-solving skills in engineering and design.
* \*\*Artificial Intelligence tools:\*\* Students explore AI-driven music creation, fostering innovation and understanding of emerging technologies.
* \*\*Robotics, coding, and programming:\*\* Students learn coding and programming through the creation of musical robots and interactive projects.
* \*\*Entry-level engineering projects:\*\* Students tackle hands-on engineering challenges related to music technology.
* \*\*Digital arts and media creation:\*\* Students create music videos, digital artwork, and other media projects, enhancing their self-expression and digital literacy.
* \*\*Introductory music instrument instruction:\*\* Students receive instruction on a variety of instruments, fostering musical skills and confidence.

**For Natomas Unified School District Only:** Our program directly addresses the Natomas Unified School District's RFP requirements for Academic Support (through S.T.E.A.M. integration and project-based learning), Enrichment Activities (music, technology, and arts), Youth Development (teamwork, problem-solving, and leadership skills), and Family Engagement (through community outreach and parent involvement opportunities). Our curriculum aligns with NUSD's Vision and Strategic Plan, and we will fully comply with all requirements for K-8 ASES and TK-6 ELO-P programs. We will provide detailed staffing plans, ensuring qualified personnel and adherence to all required staff-to-student ratios. We will also coordinate closely with school administration and third-party enrichment providers as required.

**5. Benefits and Value Proposition**

ELOP offers significant benefits to Natomas Unified School District:

* \*\*Enhanced Student Engagement:\*\* The innovative and engaging nature of the program will significantly increase student participation and enthusiasm for learning.
* \*\*Improved Academic Performance:\*\* The integration of S.T.E.A.M. principles and project-based learning will improve critical thinking, problem-solving, and academic skills across various subjects.
* \*\*Increased Wellness:\*\* Music has a proven positive impact on mental and emotional well-being, promoting stress reduction and emotional expression.
* \*\*Community Involvement:\*\* ELOP will foster a strong sense of community through collaborative projects and family engagement activities.

**For Natomas Unified School District Only:** We will ensure all staff meet qualification, training, and background check standards as outlined in the RFP. We will maintain detailed records and comply with all reporting requirements.

**6. Teamwork and Collaboration**

MSG/M.I.N.K.H. is committed to partnering closely with Natomas Unified School District staff, teachers, and the broader community. We will work collaboratively to integrate ELOP seamlessly into the existing school structure and provide ongoing support and training.

**For Natomas Unified School District Only:** We understand the requirement for separate budgeting for combined ASES/ELO-P sites and will submit itemized budgets for each site. We will adhere to all payment schedules outlined in the RFP. We will coordinate with any third-party enrichment providers to ensure a cohesive and comprehensive educational experience for students.

**7. Music for Optimal Wellness**

Music is a powerful tool for promoting student wellness. ELOP leverages music's therapeutic benefits to foster emotional expression, stress reduction, and improved mental well-being. The interactive nature of our program creates a supportive environment where students can explore their creativity and build self-confidence. Through collaborative music-making, students develop valuable social and emotional skills.

**8. Program Details**

* \*\*Schedule:\*\* 2 days per week
* \*\*Duration:\*\* 30 weeks
* \*\*Dates:\*\* Example Start Date: August 13, 2025; Estimated End Date: March 27, 2026 (based on a 30-week program starting August 13th and excluding school holidays and breaks).
* \*\*Locations:\*\* Bannon Creek (and other selected school sites as needed)
* \*\*Grades Served:\*\* TK-8th grade
* \*\*Participant Capacity:\*\* Maximum 40 students per class, with a total enrollment capacity of 600 students.

**For Natomas Unified School District Only:** We commit to serving up to 40 TK/K students per site with a 1:10 ratio, and maintaining overall staff-to-student ratios of 1:10 for TK/K and 1:20 for grades 1-8. A dedicated site coordinator will be present 30 hours per week, on-site 85% of the time.

**9. Fee**

The total fee for the program is $20,250.00.

**For Natomas Unified School District Only:** This budget aligns with the maximum of $2,500/student, and a detailed itemized budget per school site will be provided as a separate attachment.

**10. Payment Schedule**

We propose a monthly payment schedule, with the first payment due after the first month of service. This aligns with the Natomas Unified School District's payment terms outlined in the RFP.

**11. Call to Action**

We look forward to the opportunity to collaborate and make a meaningful impact together.

**12. Conclusion**

MSG/M.I.N.K.H.'s ELOP offers a transformative educational experience that addresses critical needs within the Natomas Unified School District. Our innovative approach, combining music, technology, and S.T.E.A.M. education, will empower students, improve academic outcomes, and foster a strong sense of community. We are confident that this partnership will be mutually beneficial and lead to significant positive impact on the lives of your students.

**For Natomas Unified School District Only:** We are committed to full compliance with all legal and compliance requirements outlined in the RFP, including insurance minimums, DOJ/FBI fingerprint clearance, anti-discrimination policies, student data privacy, record retention, and the understanding of no dual contracting. We are eager to provide further details and answer any questions you may have.