

# GLASSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Updated 2/1/05

## Monthly Board Items

Date Submitted  
**March 15, 2016**

Proposed Effective Date:  
**March 24, 2016**

Grade(s) impacted:  
**7 & 8**

Name: <b>Opera Philadelphia Sounds of Learning</b>	Position/Item: <b>N/A</b>	Submitted By: <b>Kriston Matthews</b>	Building: <b>Intermediate</b>
Proposed cost/amount: <b>None</b>	Funded through: <b>N/A</b>	Hours/Days per week: <b>N/A</b>	Benefits: <b>Y</b> or <b>N</b> (circle one) <b>N/A</b>

Is candidate currently employed by District:

No  Yes

(if yes, what position)

substitute \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, part time or full time (circle one) **N/A**

Is candidate a former employee:  No  Yes

Check references/review district personnel file?

x  No  Yes **N/A**

### Board Action Requested

Request endorsement of Intermediate School's participation in the Philadelphia Opera's Sounds of Learning program.

### Details and ramifications:

Opera Philadelphia requests a letter of support so that they can renew membership in Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program. Corporations make their donations thru the EITC program.

### Positives:

Participation exposes our students to a professional opera, a new and different cultural experience for most Intermediate School students.

### Concerns:

None

### Other Comments:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Board Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: Y or N

Index #: \_\_\_\_\_

## MacMichael, Mary

---

**From:** Baer, Katharine  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2016 2:29 PM  
**To:** MacMichael, Mary  
**Subject:** FW: Request for EITC Support letter for Opera Philadelphia

Hi Mary,

I received the below email regarding the Opera Philadelphia program that GIS participated in last year. I believe they need a letter from Dr. Silverstein in order to support the program that we attended this past year and so that we can continue participating.

Let me know if you need any information from me!

Thank you,  
Katharine

**From:** "Bishop, Adrienne" <[bishop@operaphila.org](mailto:bishop@operaphila.org)>  
**Date:** March 10, 2016 at 11:43:25 AM EST  
**To:** "'[katharinebaer@gmail.com](mailto:katharinebaer@gmail.com)'" <[katharinebaer@gmail.com](mailto:katharinebaer@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Request for EITC Support letter for Opera Philadelphia

March 10, 2016

Dr. Mark Silverstein  
Superintendent  
Glassboro School District  
560 Joseph Bowe Blvd  
Glassboro, NJ 08028

Dear Dr. Silverstein:

Since 1991, The Opera Philadelphia's award winning education program, *Sounds of Learning*<sup>™</sup>, has enabled more than 150,000 students throughout the tri-state area to experience the magic of opera while improving literacy and learning skills.

Because *Sounds of Learning*<sup>™</sup> is offered free of charge, the program is entirely dependent on donations from corporations, foundations, and individual donors. Many of our corporate donors give to *Sounds of Learning*<sup>™</sup> through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit program (EITC), and the Opera Company is required to renew its membership in this program each year. In order for us to remain eligible for this much needed funding, we are required to provide a letter of support from the superintendent of each participating school district. Because Glassboro Intermediate School has asked to participate in the 2016-2017 *Sounds of Learning*<sup>™</sup> Signature program, we will therefore request a support letter from you.

I have attached a letter to be used as a template. Please return your letter on official Glassboro School District letterhead by April 30, 2016, to:

Opera Philadelphia  
ATTN: Michael Bolton  
1420 Locust Street, Suite 210  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (215) 893-5927, or by email at [bolton@operaphila.org](mailto:bolton@operaphila.org). Many thanks for your participation in the *Sounds of Learning™* program and for your help in securing this support!

Sincerely,



Michael Bolton  
Vice President of Community Programs

<<DATE>>

David Devan  
General Director  
Opera Philadelphia  
1420 Locust Street, Suite 210  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Dear Mr. Devan,

The Glassboro School District is pleased to participate in the Opera Philadelphia's *Sounds of Learning™* educational program. As funding for enrichment curricula becomes harder and harder to find, programs such as *Sounds of Learning™*, which is provided free of charge to participating schools, become even more important.

Thank you for making *Sounds of Learning™* available to us.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mark Silverstein  
Superintendent  
Glassboro School District