

Curriculum / Technology Committee

June 22, 2015



Welcome.....

Jennifer Farthing,
Director of Curriculum



Online Curriculum (Apex)

- ▶ Digital curriculum designed to prepare students for “college, work, and life.”
- ▶ Dave Browne, Twinsburg Alternative Program (TAP) instructor



Current Programming

- ▶ The TCSD has used “A+” online learning for the past 5 years.
- ▶ Issues exist with students working around the system, technical support is lacking from company and sometimes the material and questions “collide.”
- ▶ Overall, A+ has provided a good program for the purposes of credit recovery, but it is lacking in curricular strength and variety.

A+

Introduction to APEX Learning

- ▶ Video URL:
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZYtzBumx3-I>

Current

A+

Proposed



Can only lessen rigor of courses instead of providing a greater challenge.

Five levels of rigor for most courses

Students learn each course by the same style

Students learn by doing –utilizing video, audio, text, virtual labs, and other digital resources.

Students have to ask teacher to print out progress reports.

Students can track their own progress through their account.

Limited course offerings within the core disciplines and a few electives.

More course offerings across all disciplines.

ONLY ideal for credit recovery purposes

Versatile – able to be used for NEW credit and credit recovery.

Assessments are integrated throughout and provide the opportunity for students to test for mastery.

Assessments, seamlessly integrated throughout courses, test for mastery, and provide actionable feedback for educators and students

In conclusion...

- ▶ Apex Learning is the more efficient option for Twinsburg City School District students.
- ▶ Subscription purchase vs. owning the software.



Senior Seminar

- ▶ **Mike Bell, Teacher, Twinsburg High School**
- ▶ **Louise Teringo, Principal Twinsburg High School**



college2career
making the move

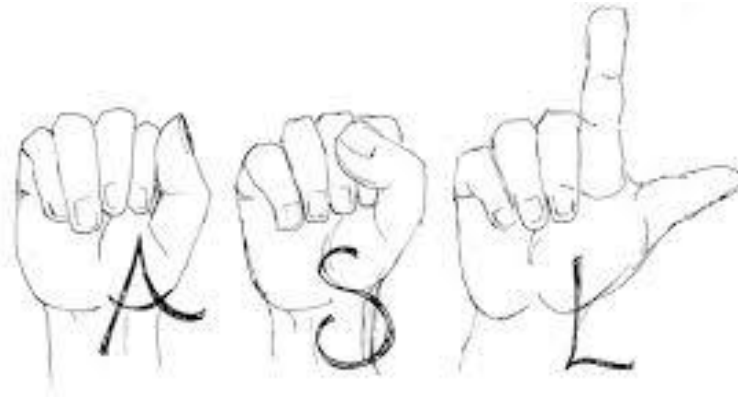
Fitness and Nutrition for Today's Athlete

- ▶ **Mike Bell and Dominique Sanders, Teachers, Twinsburg High School**



American Sign Language

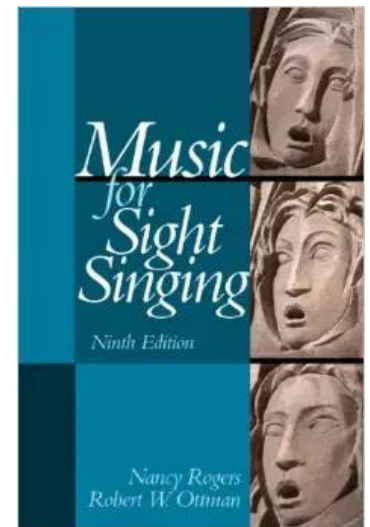
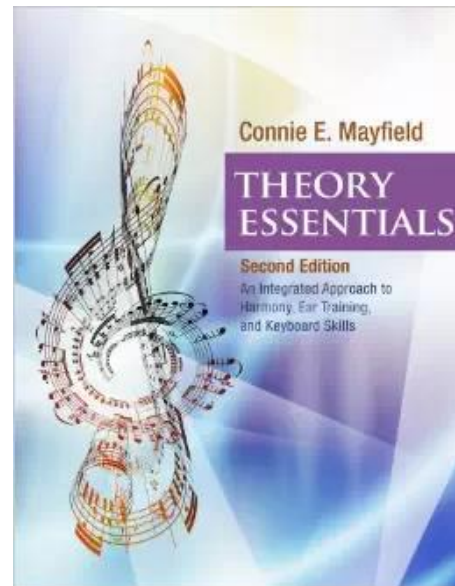
▶ Jennifer Farthing



Workbook/Textbook vote
forthcoming.

AP Music Theory

- ▶ **Ryan Bonitz**, Instrumental Music,
Twinsburg High School



AP Music Theory

Course Overview and Textbook Rationale

Presented by Mr. Ryan Bonitz, Director of Bands
Twinsburg City School District
Summer 2015

Course Overview

From the College Board (2015):

- The AP Music Theory course corresponds to two semesters of a typical introductory college music theory course that covers topics such as musicianship, theory, musical materials, and procedures. Musicianship skills including dictation and other listening skills, sight-singing, and keyboard harmony are considered an important part of the course. Through the course, students develop the ability to recognize, understand, and describe basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. Development of aural skills is a primary objective. Performance is also part of the learning process. Students understand basic concepts and terminology by listening to and performing a wide variety of music. Notational skills, speed, and fluency with basic materials are emphasized.

Primary Skills of Music Theory

- Notational Skills and Basic Musicianship
- Music Theory (i.e. the construction of music)
 - Pitches
 - Intervals
 - Scales and Key Signatures
 - Chords (triads and seventh chords)
 - Meter
 - Rhythm

Primary Skills of Music Theory (cont.)

- Dictation
 - Melodic
 - Rhythmic
- Sight-Singing (without instrumental assistance)
 - Internal process of recognizing and recreating music
- Aural Skills (recognition of pitch, interval, etc.)
- Part-writing in 4-voices (basic compositional skills)

Reviewed Textbooks

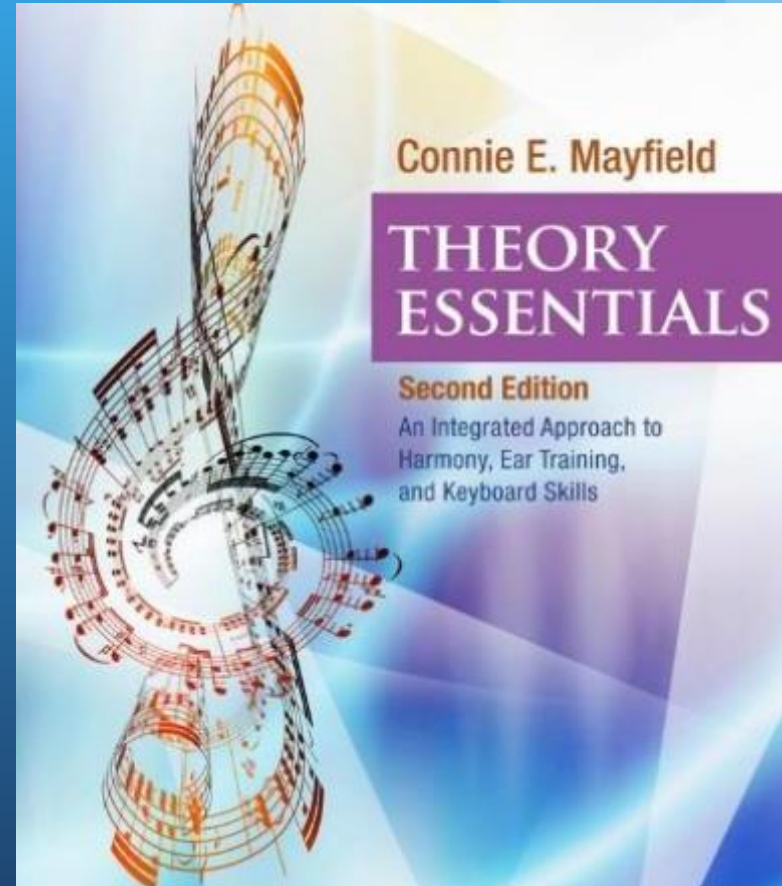
- Textbooks provided from three publishers:
 - Cengage Learning
 - “Theory Essentials” (2nd Edition) by Connie E. Mayfield (Cengage Learning)
 - McGraw-Hill Education
 - “Music in Theory and Practice” (Volumes I and II) by Bruce Benward & Marilyn Saker (McGraw-Hill)

Reviewed Textbooks (cont.)

- Pearson Education
 - “Elements of Music” (3rd Edition) by Joseph N. Strauss (Pearson)
 - “Basic Materials in Music Theory: A Programmed Course” by Paul O. Harder & Greg A. Steinke (Pearson)
 - “Music for Sight Singing” (9th Edition) by Nancy Rogers and Robert W. Ottman (Pearson)

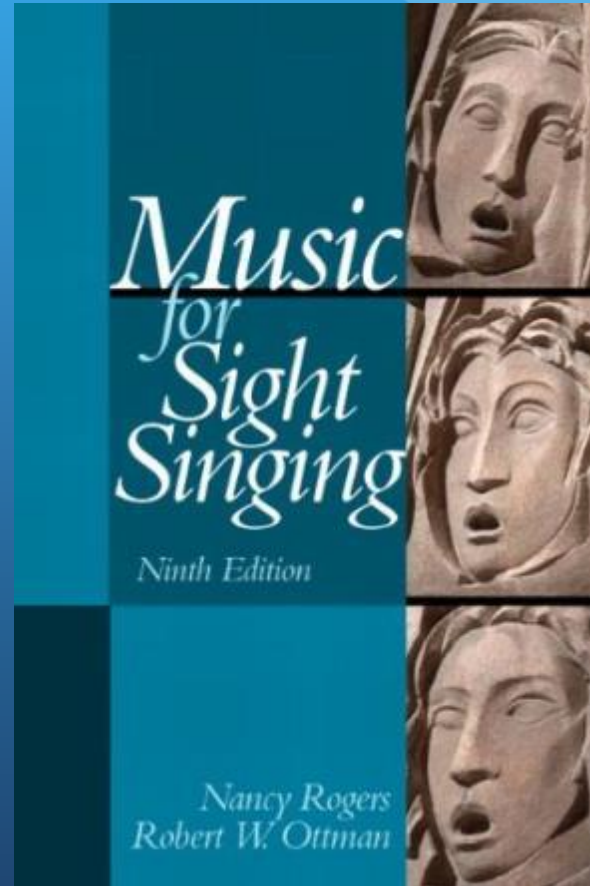
Textbook Selection and Justification

- **Validation:**
 - Organizes information in a clear, logical progression
 - Provides great resources for teaching/learning core tenets of music theory
 - Includes high quantity of actual musical examples that enforce lessons
 - Accompanying workbook



Textbook Selection and Justification (cont.)

- **Validation:**
 - Sight-singing is an essential, tested facet of the AP Music Theory course
 - Sight-singing may be the most unfamiliar element of this course
 - It is a stand-alone resource that would supplement the Mayfield text



Additional Teacher-Generated Supplements

- Many foundational skills learned in this course are analytical in nature
 - Teacher intends to create and provide:
 - Many additional worksheets for each section
 - Supplemental handouts for review and practice
 - Additional unit tests (written and aural)
 - Musical assessments (drill and practice, performance-based assessments, etc.)
 - Past AP tests for practice (from the College Board)
 - Others

References

- Mayfield, C. E. (2013). *Theory essentials: An integrated approach to harmony, ear training, and keyboard skills* (2nd ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.
- Rogers, N. & Ottman, R. W. (2014). *Music for sight singing* (9th ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson Education, Inc.
- Documents and resources also obtained from:
 - The College Board (2015). *AP music theory*. Retrieved from http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/teachers_corner/2261.html

Dates for 2015 – 2016 School Year:

- ▶ September 21, 2015
- ▶ October 26, 2015
- ▶ February 8, 2016
- ▶ April 11, 2016

Adjourn

