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## **Birch Lake Elementary students offered MacPhail strings program**

WHITE BEAR LAKE, Minn. – Students at Birch Lake Elementary have the opportunity to enroll in strings lessons during the school day due to the District’s expanded partnership with MacPhail Center for Music. The strings curriculum will include basic posture and technique, tone production, experiential playing, and basic music literacy building.

Students at Birch Lake Elementary have had the opportunity to take MacPhail piano lessons since the fall of 2006, when the partnership began with second and third grade group piano lessons. Currently, every student who wishes to have piano instruction in grades 2-5 is receiving the opportunity.

“The student growth that was seen at Birch Lake Elementary last year, which was among the highest in the state, was influenced by many factors,” said Superintendent Michael Lovett. “Research suggests music education positively affects student learning. We believe the enhanced music program at Birch Lake Elementary was a contributing factor in the students’ recent successes.”

MacPhail will provide an overview of the violin program and also demonstrate the instrument at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 11, 2010 at Birch Lake Elementary. Those who are interested in having their third grade child participate are invited to attend.

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