Moosiko

How One High School Modernized its Guitar Program

Challenge: A new guitar teacher needed to find modern, engaging resources for his guitar students.

Solution: The teacher discovered Moosiko, an adaptive guitar-learning platform that offers 250 songs from all different genres.

About Lakeville North High School

Lakeville North High School is part of Lakeville Area Schools, Independent School District # 194, in Minnesota.

✓ **1,780 STUDENTS**

✓ **20 GUITAR STUDENTS**

As a long-time band director with the requisite training and experience that job requires, Matthew Wanken was apprehensive about starting a guitar class in 2019.

"I 'inherited' the former guitar teacher's book, and all it contained was a bunch of traditional folk songs," says Wanken, director of bands at Lakeville North High School in Lakeville, Minnesota. "The students were completely unengaged. They wanted to play modern songs."

Before the 2020-21 school year began, Wanken decided to search for updated resources. He saw a post about Moosiko on Facebook and decided to check it out.

"I liked that it was an online practice and assessment tool and that it was self-paced," he says, "but most of all, I loved that it offered contemporary songs in various genres—soft rock, hard

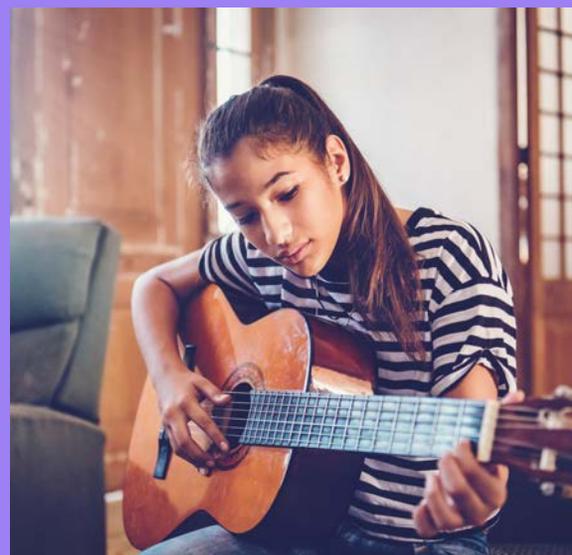rock, country, pop. I knew that would appeal to my students," says Wanken.

He reached out to learn more, and the company's founder walked him through the features. For Wanken, whose students would be attending in-person classes only twice a week, at most, during the pandemic, the platform's interactive lessons seemed both engaging and motivational. He was certain his students would be inspired to work toward their goals.

Guitar 101

Wanken started the year deliberately, with all of his guitar students learning the same two songs as a group. Because Moosiko allows users to search for songs using different parameters, it was easy for him to find songs with three basic chords. After students mastered the two songs, Wanken let them choose a third song on their own. "For instance, I could ask students to find a song that teaches a new transition that we haven't done. The search capability is excellent."

When students are at home, they can progress at their own pace. When they are in the classroom, Wanken can do a group lesson or walk around and offer support as students work independently. That flexibility is important, and Wanken appreciates that he can weave Moosiko into the curriculum or use it as a supplement.

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Lakeville North High School in Lakeville, Minnesota*

In December, Wanken's students learned *Jingle Bells*. They recorded the song in Soundtrap and, using Moosiko, learned the chords to layer under the melody.

For a busy teacher attempting to teach something new, Moosiko was the perfect fit. Wanken loves that the company has followed up with him to make sure everything is going smoothly. "I really appreciate the personal connection," he says. "It cemented the fact that I want to continue using this product. In fact, I recommended it to my colleague at Lakeville South High School."

Overall, Wanken says the experience he's had with Moosiko has been inclusive and positive. Since September, more than 40 songs have been added to the platform, and he's excited for his students to suggest additional ones.

Price per year for Moosiko:

$15/student: 0-99 students
$13.50/student: 100-199 students
$12/student: 200+ students

Moosiko, the #1 platform for in-person, remote, and hybrid guitar classes, combines adaptive-learning technologies, design, and audio engineering to deliver a modern approach to learning guitar. With more than 220 songs from various decades and genres, Moosiko provides a personalized learning path for students while giving teachers quick and easy assessment capabilities to track student skills and progress. Find out more at moosiko.com.

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