

Curriculum for: **Music**

GRADES 5 AND 6

General Music: Fifth and sixth grade general music is provided to every student in the district. We strive to involve the students in as many diverse musical experiences as possible by including singing, dancing, performing, listening and describing various musical styles as an integral part of the core curriculum.

The students will:

- identify, categorize and describe the vocal ranges and the changing voice
- perform a variety of vocal pieces
- describe and identify styles of American music such as Spirituals, Blues, Jazz and Rock and Roll
- perform a variety of musical styles at the keyboard
- read and write simple melodies and rhythmic examples
- identify and describe the music and composers of the Classical and Romantic time periods

BAND

Fifth grade is the first opportunity for students to participate in the band program. Students are involved in learning both how to perform correctly on their individual instrument and how to work together in a large group rehearsal. Sixth grade band continues to reinforce and build upon those skills acquired through participation at the fifth grade level. Students perform in three scheduled concerts throughout the school year and also have additional opportunities to perform outside of school in our community. In addition to performing group rehearsal, students receive a small group lesson once a week for 30 minutes to develop their musical skills.

The students will:

- demonstrate correct assembly, hand position and technique on their instrument
- identify musical symbols, notes and rhythms

- perform music, using their knowledge of note and rhythm reading
- listen to, evaluate and describe various styles of music
- experience positive and successful musical performances
- apply knowledge of music reading to performing music at sight

ORCHESTRA

After being introduced to the string instruments at the fourth grade level, fifth and sixth grade students have the opportunity to continue their participation as a member of the fifth and sixth grade orchestra program. Orchestra meets regularly and students in the orchestra program perform in three scheduled concerts throughout the school year. Students also receive a small group lesson once a week for 30 minutes to enhance and develop their musical skills.

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Curriculum for: **Music** – continued

The students will:

- identify musical symbols and notes
- perform simple scales and arpeggios
- develop bowing and left hand fingering techniques
- perform music using correct notes, rhythms and style
- experience pride after successful performances for the school and community
- apply knowledge of music reading to performing music at sight

CHORUS

Fifth grade is the first time that students have an opportunity to sing in a large choral group. This experience continues at the sixth grade level as the students work to develop their choral ensemble skills. Chorus meets regularly and students in the choral program perform in three scheduled concerts throughout the school year. Particular emphasis is placed on exposing students to a wide variety of musical styles and cultures.

The students will:

- perform music of all musical time periods, styles and languages
- perform songs with expression demonstrating good tone and diction
- perform music using correct vocal techniques such as phrasing and breath support
- demonstrate appropriate concert behaviors in performance situations
- apply knowledge of musical symbols to reading music
- listen to and evaluate choral performances

GRADES 7 AND 8

General Music: Seventh grade general music is a required course for students who are not participating in the band, chorus or orchestra programs. This course meets every other day for the entire year and allows students to continue to explore reading music notes and learning about composers and musical time periods.

The students will:

- read music notes and simple rhythms
- identify musical symbols
- perform simple melodic and rhythmic examples on the recorder and keyboard
- identify and describe music and composers of the Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Twentieth Century musical time periods
- discuss and experience different styles and aspects of music

BAND AND ORCHESTRA

Seventh and eighth grade band and orchestra build on the techniques developed at the fifth and sixth grade level and propel the students to a higher level of musicality. The literature becomes increasingly challenging, requiring students to play with more confidence and independence. Students continue to meet for large group rehearsals every other school day and have small group lessons for 30 minutes once a week. Performances

include regularly scheduled concerts and special community performances and events in which students are asked to participate.

The students will:

- read and perform advanced music, utilizing knowledge of notes, rhythms and musical symbols
- perform a wide variety of musical literature from different time periods and cultures
- perform scales, arpeggios and other exercises to continue to develop technique
- apply knowledge of music reading to performing music at sight
- listen to and evaluate musical performances
- experience positive and successful performances for both the school and community

CHORUS

Seventh and eighth grade chorus rehearses every other school day to prepare the students to perform in three scheduled concerts throughout the school year. Chorus provides a unique musical experience to all of its members as it continues to develop the musical ensemble skills gained by the students at the fifth and sixth grade level. The students sing in two and three part harmony and learn how to sing with more advanced tone and technique.

The students will:

- demonstrate appropriate concert behavior in performance situations
- perform music using correct vocal techniques
- experience music from all time periods, styles and cultures
- apply knowledge of musical symbols to reading music
- develop large group rehearsal techniques

