

Orchestra 8 (8220) Course Overview				
Course Description				
In this course, students will be exposed to a variety of quality musical, cultural and artistic experiences to every student through playing their instrument. We will learn and demonstrate quality playing, new techniques, understand the signs, symbols and language of music through music literacy, and ensemble skills needed to explore other musical styles.				
Credits		Prerequisites		
		Instrument experience or students new to playing an instrument should work with teacher to find best placement		
Board Approved		Revised		
Required Assessments				
District-wide, standards-based common summative assessments				
Textbooks/Resources				
Published and public domain orchestra music will be the primary content of orchestra classes 7-8				
Course Essential Understandings		Course Relevance Questions		
As a result of successfully completing this course, students will understand that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical/executive skills and knowledge (how-to to perform on the instrument) • Musicianship skills and knowledge (musical understandings) • Artistic skills and knowledge (creative and expressive side of music-making) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do musicians make meaningful connections to creating, performing, and responding? • How do other arts, other disciplines, contexts, and daily life inform creating, performing, and responding to music? • What does it mean to be part of an orchestra? 		
Unit Overviews				
Unit Name	Unit Description	Unit Essential Question	Instructional Standards	Assessed Standards
Unit 1 - Foundations	This unit establishes awareness of what students already bring to their Orchestra and embarks on refining their fundamental instruments and musical skills which are habits of expressive musicians and ensemble members. Goals and procedures of the Orchestra classroom will be emphasized. Musicians will explore their potential through building their foundational musical toolkit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does it mean to be part of an orchestra? • What's my role in the orchestra and how do I contribute? • What is the terminology needed to describe and apply to music making? 	MU:Pr5.1.E.8a MU:Pr6.1.E.8a MU:Pr6.1.E.8b MU:Cn11.1.E.8c-WI	
Unit 2 - Performance Readiness	Students will perform expressively by exploring the musical context and making intentional creative choices using skills acquired in this course.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does understanding the structure and context of musical works inform performance? • How do performers interpret musical works? • How do musicians improve the quality of their performance? • When is a performance judged ready to present? • How do context and the manner in which musical work is presented influence audience response? • How do we judge the quality of musical work(s) and performance(s)? 	MU:Pr5.3.E.8a MU:Pr6.1.E.8a MU:Pr6.1.E.8b	
Unit 3 -Musicianship Skills	Students will apply fundamental musical skills to develop additional new musicianship skills and concepts through alternative ensembles, music styles, and string techniques.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do performers select repertoire? • How do we discern the musical creators' and performers' expressive intent? 	MU:Re7.1.E.8a MU:Pr4.3.E.8a-WI MU:Pr5.1.E.8a MU:Pr6.1.E.8a	
Unit 4- Applying Knowledge	Students will apply their knowledge as active participants in the orchestra classroom, demonstrating ownership individually and within the ensemble. Students will explore how their own voices impact their musical community and the connections they make with and through music.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does understanding the structure and context of musical works inform performance? • How do performers interpret musical works? • How do musicians improve the quality of their performance? • When is a performance judged ready to present? • How do context and the manner in which musical work is presented influence audience response? • How do we judge the quality of musical work(s) and performance(s)? 	MU:Cn10.1.E.IIc-WI MU:Pr6.1.E.8a MU:Pr6.1.E.8b	

