

Orchestra 6 (8155) Course Overview

Course Description

Orchestra 6 is a performing ensemble that consists of sixth grade string players with previous experience or have special permission from the middle school orchestra teacher to select orchestra. Orchestra students in middle school make further connections to the world and themselves by collaboratively creating music and gaining a deeper understanding of their instrument. Students in Orchestra 6 perform a minimum of 2 public concerts in school during the year. Students are expected to practice on their own outside of school.

Credits	Prerequisites
NA	At least 1 year of string experience. Students new to playing an instrument should work with teacher to find best placement.
Board Approved	Revised
1/22/24	

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 6-8.
 "All for Strings" Theory Workbook 1 by Anderson/Frost (supplemental)

Course Essential Understandings	Course Essential 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 - Musician Skills	This unit establishes awareness of what students already bring to their Orchestra and embarks on refining their fundamental instrumental 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. 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 musicians improve the quality of their performance? What is the terminology needed to describe and apply to music making? How does understanding the structure and context of musical works inform performance? 	MU:Pr5.1.E.8a MU:Pr6.1.E.8a MU:Pr6.1.E.8b MU:Cn11.1.E.8c-WI MU:Pr4.3.E.8a-WI MU:Re7.1.E.8a	MU:Pr5.1.E.8a MU:Pr6.1.E.8a
Unit 2 - Ensemble Skills	Students will perform expressively by exploring the musical context and making intentional creative choices using skills acquired in this course. Students will apply their knowledge as active participants in the orchestra classroom, demonstrating ownership individually and within the ensemble.	<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? How do performers interpret musical works? 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 - Applying Knowledge	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 context and the manner in which musical work is presented influence audience response? More questions on cultural connections 	MU:Cn10.1.E.IIc-WI MU:Pr6.1.E.8a MU:Pr6.1.E.8b	