

STRATFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Music Department – String Orchestra

Curriculum Scope and Sequence

	Concept/Units	Application - Students will:
HIGH SCHOOL	The Art of Reading and Interpreting Music Notation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and define interpretive symbols and musical terms appropriate to music being performed.• Identify all key signatures and demonstrate understanding of the circle of fifths.• Identify all pitches on the staff appropriate to specific instrument.• Count rhythms with even and odd subdivisions in simple, compound, and unequal meters using Stratford's district counting system.• Demonstrate articulations appropriate to music being performed.• Interpret dynamic and tempo markings appropriate to music being performed.• Demonstrate understanding of a musical map including 1st and 2nd endings, Da capo, Dal Segno, codas, abbreviations, etc.• Demonstrate a knowledge of percussion notation in music being performed as well as standard rudiments (percussionists only).
	Performing Music Independently and With Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate correct fingerings within a practical range of their chosen instrument.• Perform all major scales and three forms of minor scales.• Perform chromatic scale and other scales that are appropriate to the music being performed.• Identify and correctly respond to conducting patterns and cues.• Demonstrate a tone quality that is appropriate for ones chosen instrument.• Adjust pitch so as to play in tune with fellow musicians.• Demonstrate appropriate playing posture and embouchure.• Perform musical works from various time periods and various styles from band literature at a grade level of 3-5.• Demonstrate proper care for the instrument.• Play as an ensemble with refined volume, blend, balance, and tone quality.• Demonstrate the ability to tune timpani to various intervals by ear (percussion only).• Demonstrate proper rolls on snare drum, timpani, and mallets (percussion only).• Demonstrate facility in playing the 26 standard drum rudiments (percussion only).

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Describing, Analyzing and Creating Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe musical performances using musical terms such as melody, harmony, rhythm, tempo, intonation, blend, balance, dynamics, and timbre.• Describe the basic forms of the music being studied (see vocabulary above).• Identify aurally and from music notation triad quality.• Identify aurally and from music notation the differences between natural, harmonic, and melodic minor.• Improvise a short melody based on a blues and/or pentatonic scale.
Evaluating Music Using Critical Thinking and Listening Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aurally identify correct performance of given rhythmic notation in various simple and compound meters.• Name the key signatures in the order of the circle of fifths.• Match pitch to a standard given note.• Aurally and visually identify articulations.• Demonstrate an understanding of conducting patterns.• Evaluate (verbally and in written form) individual and ensemble performances/rehearsals.• Aurally discriminate among various instrumental timbres.• Compare own performance to other ensembles performing the same music.
Music History and Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Observe and describe live and/or video recorded performances by professional players and/or composers.• Participate in adjudication festivals with professional musician clinicians.• Perform music in a variety of styles and periods of composition. This includes a four year cycle of repertoire.• Demonstrate self/group confidence, discipline, and acceptable performance and rehearsal decorum.• Select and listen to quality music.

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Participating in the cultural/musical life of the community through involvement in local and regional music/arts opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in solo and ensemble performances.• Participate in public performances at school and within the community.• Identify opportunities for music performances in the community.• Attend live performances by professional musicians.