



School District of Marshfield

Course Syllabus

Course Name: 7th Grade Strings

Length of Course: 1 Year

Credits: 1 Credit

Course Description:

The 7th grade orchestra focuses on the violin, viola, cello and string bass, all members of the string family. Technical and musical skills that were learned through 6th grade will be built upon and expanded. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in the solo-ensemble festival, advance their skills with regular lessons, practice with other classmates and show off their talents at the winter and spring concerts. Students are encouraged to enroll after completing 5th and 6th grade strings or with consent of the instructor.

Learning Targets:

- Sound
 - Tone (bowing)
 - Class C + B play with a focused tone appropriate for music level
 - Class A Play with an open resonant full tone in all registers and ranges. Demonstrate consistently accurate bowing skills
 - Intonation (consistency, pitch adjustment skills) Demonstrate accurate pitch adjustment in all ranges and registers. Pitch adjustments are made instantly
- Musical Mechanics
 - Accuracy (notes, rhythms, Pulse) Demonstrate outstanding accuracy with all notes and rhythms being performed accurately with correct pulse throughout.
 - Technique (Posture, Articulation, Hand Position, Bowing) Demonstrate consistently appropriate posture articulations, hand positions, and bowing
- Expression
 - Style elements, Interpretation Phrasing, Dynamics, Tempo. Demonstrate excellent expression with accurate style elements, interpretation, phrasing, dynamics, and tempo
- Presentation
 - Attention to Director, Ensemble Department
 - Watch and respond to the director throughout the performance.
 - Ensemble members will act in a respectful, courteous and cooperative manner throughout rehearsal and performances.

- Involvement
 - Participation, Preparedness, Attitude, Leadership, Taking
 - Direction
 - Understand and implement the importance of: respect for others and expectations; being prepared for class and performances; being an active participant in rehearsals and performances; seeking improvement through independent practice.

Detailed Topic/Content Outline-Units and Themes:

First Quarter (9 weeks)

1. Audition for chair placement (week 2)
2. Lessons (weeks 1-9)
3. Challenges (weeks 3-9)
4. Begin Winter Concert prep (week 4)

Second Quarter (9 weeks)

1. Winter Concert prep (weeks1-5)
2. Selection and prep for Solo/ Ensemble Festival (weeks3-4)
3. Lessons (weeks 1-9)
4. Winter Concert (week 5)
5. Challenges (weeks 1-5)
6. Invitation extended for WSMA Honors Project (week 6)

Third Quarter (9 weeks)

1. Solo & Ensemble Preparation/performance (weeks 1-6)
2. Spring Concert prep (weeks 1-8)
3. Lessons (weeks 1-9)
4. Challenges (weeks 1-9)

Fourth Quarter (9 weeks)

1. Lessons (weeks 1-9)
2. Spring Concert prep/performance (weeks 1-6)
3. Challenges (weeks1-6)

Required Core Resources:

- Music Library – Concert Music
- Musical Equipment and Supplies (Instruments, Rosin, Cleaning cloth)
- Solo and ensemble music
- Materials and Supplies (rockstop for cellos and basses)
- Lessons Book (Essential Elements 2000 Book 1+2, Hal Leonard Co. specific for each instrument)