



School District of Marshfield

Course Syllabus

Course Name: 6th Grade Strings

Length of Course: Year

Weekly pullout lesson during the school day
Monday after school large group rehearsal
Summer Jump Start lessons

Credits: 1 Credit

Course Description:

Students entering the 6th grade will have the opportunity to learn a string instrument by joining the orchestra. Instruction on Violin, Viola, Cello, or Bass is provided to students wishing to develop their musical abilities. Students will learn how to read music, count rhythms, assemble and care for their instrument, develop body awareness, muscle control, performance skills, teamwork and time management. (New String orchestra members are encouraged to attend a two week summer session to introduce them to their instrument.) Weekly lessons will take place at each student's elementary school, and the orchestra will showcase their hard work at a winter and spring concert. All students are welcome to join.

Learning Targets:

- Sound
 - Tone Bowing, right arm position, bowhold
 - Intonation (Consistency, Pitch Adjustment Skills)
 - Students will develop the ability to discern pitch accuracy and learn the steps to make appropriate adjustments.
- Mechanics
 - Accuracy (Notes, Rhythms, Pulse)
 - Students will develop note and rhythmic accuracy skills.
 - Technique (Posture, Articulation)
 - Students will demonstrate appropriate posture and develop understanding of articulation skills.
- Expression
 - Style elements (Interpretation, Phrasing, Dynamics, Tempo)
 - Students will develop understanding and implementation of style elements: interpretation, phrasing, dynamics, and tempo.
- Presentation
 - Attention to Director, Ensemble Department
 - Students will demonstrate the ability to 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
 - Students will demonstrate that they understand and can implement the importance of: respect for others and rules; 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. Set lesson schedule and identify students unable to attend summer lesson session (week 1-2)
2. Lessons (week 2-9)
3. Winter concert prep (5-9)

Second Quarter (9 weeks)

1. Lessons (week 1-9)
2. Winter Concert Prep (week 1-9)

Third Quarter (9 weeks)

1. Lessons (week 1-9)
2. Spring Concert Prep (week 1-9)

Fourth Quarter (9 weeks)

1. Lessons (week 1-9)
2. Spring Concert Prep (week 1-7)

Required Core Resources:

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