

A Standards-Based Curriculum

The National Core Arts Standards set high expectations for all students in the area of music. District 41's standards are derived from the National Core Arts Standards and describe the skills in which your child should be proficient. There are four overarching practices, to which there are eleven anchor standards aligned:

Creating	Performing	Responding	Connecting
1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.	4. Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation.	7. Perceive and analyze artistic work.	10. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural, and historical context to deepen understanding.
2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.	5. Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation.	8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.	11. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.
3. Refine and complete artistic work.	6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.	9. Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.	

<http://nationalartsstandards.org>

Specific Skills and Objectives for Level 3

Level 3 music lessons are connected to the above National Standards. Following are specific skills and outcomes that your student will work to achieve this year:

Pitch

- Sing and play a repertoire of songs.
- Read, write, and perform melodies from the treble staff using voice or instruments.
- Identify and demonstrate proper singing technique.
- Perform songs in a group in simple harmony.
- Play pitched and non-pitched instruments, including recorders and guitars.
- Play I, IV, and V chords to accompany a melody.

Rhythm

- Read, write & perform rhythms of increased complexity, including eighth-sixteenth note combinations, dotted quarter notes, and syncopated rhythm.
- Identify and perform beat patterns (meter) of 2, 3, 4, and 6 beats per measure.

Listen/Respond

- Perform choreographed and non-choreographed movements.
- Perform folk dances and games from various cultures.
- Use music terminology to compare, contrast, and describe musical styles.

Analyze/Create

- Compose and improvise melodies and rhythms.
- Recognize contrasting and repeated phrases and sections (form) in music.
- Distinguish between major and minor tonality.
- Create music, ostinato, and accompaniments to enhance songs and chants.

Music Grades

Your child will receive two music grades each trimester: a Work Habits grade and a Music Concepts grade.

Music Concepts

Your child's Music Concepts grade will be based on his/her mastery of the music standards. Some of these standards are performance-based skills, and others involve responding to music, understanding concepts, and gaining knowledge. Students may demonstrate their skills and knowledge in a variety of ways, including:

- * Solo performance
- * Group performance
- * Written work
- * Active response to music (through movement, speaking, writing, drawing, etc.)
- * Projects

Teachers will assign a numeric grade to student work. In performance-based assessment, rubrics will be used to aide in assigning a numeric grade.

Work Habits

Your student receives a Work Habits grade every time he/she attends music class, and these grades are entered weekly in Pinnacle. A student's participation, focus, and use of the district's Learner Characteristics are factors in assigning a Work Habits grade. The rubric for this grade is as follows:

3 (Meeting)	2 (Progressing)	1 (Not Meeting)	4 (Advanced)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Good participation.* Listens to and sometimes volunteers to answer questions.* Participates with focus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Not focused.* Does not actively listen or participate.* Causes minor disruption to class.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Causes major or repeated disruption to class.* Office referral.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* Exceptional participation.* Actively answers questions.* Is highly focused.* Goes above and beyond.

For more information:

Please feel free to contact your child's music teacher for information about your child's progress in music class, or visit the music room blog for updates on what your child is doing and learning in class.

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