Summit Public Schools Summit, New Jersey Grade Level: 6-8/ Content Area: Orchestra (Strings) Length of Course: Full Year

Overview:

Middle School String Ensembles (grades 6, 7 and 8) are full year courses designed to provide students with a continuation of musical skills developed in their primary schools. This course is a developmental performance-based group and students are expected to reach a proficiency level on their instruments conducive to playing level II-III music, and have knowledge of the technical skills applicable to their respective instrument. String Orchestra is an elective, performance class open to all string players who have completed the elementary string program, or its equivalent outside the system. It is a full year course at each grade level. * Each grade level orchestra meets five times in a three week period 49 minutes each session. In addition, small group lessons (49 minutes each) provide individualized attention for each student's personal growth. Through guided practice and performance, students successfully perform a wide variety of ensemble literature as well as works of noted composers, popular songs and contemporary works. In addition to developing the necessary skills associated with playing traditional stringed instruments, the study of Humanities exposes students to the diverse and rich cultures of our world, giving a better understanding of how different types of music developed.

Note: Music performance, as implemented in the orchestra program, is unique in its individual, continuous and progressive approach. Students enter the program at differing levels of competency and readiness; as they progress through the middle school grades, students are brought to the next level of mastery at their own pace.

Artistic Process: Creating

Big Ideas: Course Objectives/Content Statement(s)

- Anchor Standard 1 (AS1) Generating and conceptualizing ideas
- Anchor Standard 2 (AS2) Organizing and developing ideas
- Anchor Standard 3 (AS3) Refining and completing products

Essential Questions Enduring Understandings What provocative questions will foster inquiry, understanding, and What will students understand about the big ideas? transfer of learning? • AS1 - How do musicians generate creative ideas? • AS1 - The creative ideas, concepts, and feelings • AS2 - How do musicians make creative decisions? that influence musicians' work emerge from a • AS3 - How do musicians improve the quality of variety of sources. their creative work? AS2 - Musicians' creative choices are influenced by their expertise, context and expressive intent. AS3 - Musicians evaluate and refine their work through openness to new ideas, persistence, and the application of appropriate criteria. Areas of Focus: Proficiencies Lessons (New Jersey Student Learning Standards) **Guiding Practices: Students will**: (Intermediate) • 1.3.C.12int.Cr1a: Compose and improvise ideas and Imagine motives for melodies and rhythmic passages based on Plan characteristic(s) of music or text(s) studied in rehearsal. Make • 1.3C.12int.Cr2a: Select and develop draft melodies and Evaluate rhythmic passages that demonstrate understanding of Refine characteristic(s) of music or text(s) studied in rehearsal. • 1.3C.12int.Cr3a: Evaluate and refine draft compositions Lesson Examples: and improvisations based on knowledge, skill and Theme and (student created) variation collaboratively developed criteria. • Word/phrase rhythmic variation (mis-sis-sip-pi 1.3C.12int.Cr3b: Share personally developed melodies and hot dog, see ya la-ter al-li-ga-tor, etc.) rhythmic passages (individually or as an ensemble) that Level appropriate composition using rote notation demonstrate understanding of characteristics of musior

texts studied in rehearsal.

Career-Ready Practices

CRP1: Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.

CRP2: Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.

CRP3: Attend to personal health and financial well-being.

CRP4: Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.

CRP5: Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.

CRP6: Demonstrate creativity and innovation.

CRP7: Employ valid and reliable research strategies.

CRP8: Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

CRP9: Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.

CRP10: Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.

CRP11: Use technology to enhance productivity.

CRP12: Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

(A,B,C,D, etc.)

- Words with notes (egg, bad, badge, etc.)
- Student improvisation with and without backing tracks
- Revision of past (rote) musical composition to formal (note) music notation.

Differentiation

Interdisciplinary Connections

• *See Addendum "Interdisciplinary Connections"

Technology Integration

- Video submissions
- Backing tracks
- Musical software programs are used for musical arranging, composition, performance and recording. An essential component to enhance student learning (Audacity, Noteflight, Smart music, Sibelius, Garage Band)
- CDs, DVDs, videos, flash drives, drop box, google classroom and youtube help to demonstrate various string techniques of diverse cultures and serve as models for tone on a string instrument; the method book has listening examples of various genres and styles of violin, viola, cello and bass.

Assessments

Formative Assessments:

- Observation in lessons
- Video submissions
- Informal performance opportunities

Summative Assessments, Projects, and Celebrations:

• Sharing student created melodies, rhythms, words, etc. in both small group and large ensemble settings.

- Internet and radio serve as wonderful resources for students to explore and research different musical genres.
- Recordings reinforce that meter, rhythm, and tonality are determining factors in the categorization of musical genres.
- Video and computer recordings help students to analyze the differences among various genres of music.

Media Literacy Integration

- Analyze and compare the pros and cons of print and electronic texts that support an author or composer's opinion
- Evaluate various media messages for credibility
- Compare and contrast how the various forms of media cover composers and music genres

Global Perspectives

- Music and composers of various cultures are assessed and studied and students will be able to find similarities and differences.
- Understand and demonstrate individual, social and civic responsibility, including a global concern, tolerance, and respect for others.

Supports for English Language Learners		
Sensory Supports	sory Supports Graphic Supports	
Real-life objects	Charts	In pairs or partners
Manipulatives	Graphic Organizers	In triands or small groups
Pictures	Tables	In a whole group
Illustrations, diagrams & drawings	Graphs	Using cooperative group
Magazines & Newspapers	Timelines	Structures
Physical activities	Number lines	Internet / Software support

Videos & Film	In the home language
Broadcasts	With mentors
Models & Figures	

Intervention Strategies			
Accommodations Interventions		Modifications	
Allow for verbal responses	Multi-sensory techniques	Modified tasks/expectations	
Repeat/confirm directions	Increase task structure (e.g. directions, checks for understanding, feedback	Differentiated materials	
Permit response provided via computer or electronic device	Increase opportunities to engage in active academic responding	Individualized assessment tools based on student need	
Audio Books	Utilize pre-reading strategies and activities previews, anticipatory guides, and semantic mapping	Modified assessment grading	

Artistic Process: Performing

Big Ideas: Course Objectives/Content Statement(s)

- Anchor Standard 4 (AS4) Selecting, analyzing and interpreting work.
- Anchor Standard 5 (AS5) Developing and refining techniques and models or steps needed to create products.
- Anchor Standard 6 (AS6) Conveying meaning through art.

Enduring Understandings Essential Questions What will students understand about the big ideas? What provocative questions will foster inquiry, understanding, and transfer of learning? • AS4 - How do performers select repertoire? • AS4 - Performers' interest in and knowledge of • AS5 - How do musicians improve the quality of musical works, understanding of their own their performance? technical skill, and the context for a performance • AS6 - When is a performance judged ready to influence the selection of repertoire. present? How do context and the manner in which AS5 - To express their musical ideas, musicians musical work is presented influence audience analyze, evaluate and refine their performance response? over time through openness to new ideas, persistence and the application of appropriate criteria. AS6 - Musicians judge performance based on criteria that vary across time, place, and cultures. The context and how a work is presented influence audience response. Areas of Focus: Proficiencies Lessons (New Jersey Student Learning Standards) **Students will**: (*Intermediate*) **Guiding Practices:** 1.3C.12int.Pr4a: Select varied repertoire to study based on Select music reading skills (where appropriate), an understanding Analyze Interpret

- of formal design in the music, context, and the technical skill of the individual and ensemble.
- 1.3C.12int.Pr4b: Demonstrate, using music reading skills (where appropriate), how the setting and formal characteristics of musical works contribute to understanding the context of the music in prepared or improvised performances.
- 1.3C.12int.Pr4c: Demonstrate understanding and

- Rehearse
- Evaluate
- Refine
- Present

Lesson Examples:

- application of expressive qualities in a varied repertoire of music through prepared and improvised performances.
- 1.3C.12int.Pr5a: Develop strategies to address technical challenges in a varied repertoire of music and evaluatetheir success using feedback from ensemble peers and other sources to refine performances.
- 1.3C.12int.Pr6a: Demonstrate attention to technical accuracy and expressive qualities in prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire ofmusic representing diverse cultures and styles.
- 1.3C.12int.Pr6b: Demonstrate an understanding of the context of the music through prepared and improvised performances.

Career-Ready Practices

CRP1: Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.

CRP2: Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.

CRP3: Attend to personal health and financial well-being.

CRP4: Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.

CRP5: Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.

CRP6: Demonstrate creativity and innovation.

CRP7: Employ valid and reliable research strategies.

CRP8: Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

CRP9: Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.

CRP10: Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.

CRP11: Use technology to enhance productivity.

CRP12: Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

- Concert music selection
- Concert music vote
- "What makes a good performance" project
- Self reflection on performance
- Peer feedback on performance
- Teacher feedback on performance

Differentiation Assessments Interdisciplinary Connections Formative Assessments: ● *See Addendum "Interdisciplinary Connections" ● Self assessment of performance ● Peer feedback on performance ● Teacher feedback on performance ● Audio and video recordings ● Video submissions ● Music practice software ● Practice tracking

Media Literacy Integration

- Analyze and compare the pros and cons of print and electronic texts that support an author or composer's opinion
- Evaluate various media messages for credibility
- Compare and contrast how the various forms of media cover composers and music genres

Global Perspectives

• Music from a variety of cultures, time periods, and/or traditions.

Supports for English Language Learners		
Sensory Supports	ensory Supports Graphic Supports	
Real-life objects	Charts	In pairs or partners
Manipulatives	Graphic Organizers	In triands or small groups
Pictures	Tables	In a whole group
Illustrations, diagrams & drawings	Graphs	Using cooperative group
Magazines & Newspapers	Timelines	Structures
Physical activities	Number lines	Internet / Software support
Videos & Film		In the home language
Broadcasts		With mentors
Models & Figures		

Intervention Strategies		
Accommodations Interventions		Modifications
Allow for verbal responses	Multi-sensory techniques	Modified tasks/expectations

• In class discussion

Summative Assessments, Projects, and Celebrations:

- Concert music vote
- "What makes a good performance?" project
- Concert performances

Repeat/confirm directions	Increase task structure (e.g. directions, checks for understanding, feedback	Differentiated materials
Permit response provided via computer or electronic device	Increase opportunities to engage in active academic responding	Individualized assessment tools based on student need
Audio Books	Utilize pre-reading strategies and activities previews, anticipatory guides, and semantic mapping	Modified assessment grading

Artistic Process: Responding

Big Ideas: Course Objectives/Content Statement(s)

- Anchor Standard 7 (AS7) Perceiving and analyzing products.
- Anchor Standard 8 (AS8) Interpreting intent and meaning.
- Anchor Standard 9 (AS9) Applying criteria to evaluate products.

Essential Questions Enduring Understandings What will students understand about the big ideas? What provocative questions will foster inquiry, understanding, and transfer of learning? AS7 - How do individuals choose music to AS7 - Individuals' selection of musical works is experience? How does understanding the structure influenced by their interests, experiences, and context of music inform a response? understandings, and purposes. Response to music • AS8 - How do we discern the musical creators' is informed by analyzing context (e.g., social, and performers' expressive intent? cultural, historical) and how creator(s) or • AS9 - How do we judge the quality of musical performer(s) manipulate the elements of music. work(s) and performance(s)? AS8 - Through their use of elements and structures of music, creators and performers. AS9 - The personal evaluation of musical work(s) and performance(s) is informed by analysis, interpretation and established criteria. Areas of Focus: Proficiencies Lessons (New Jersey Student Learning Standards) **Guiding Practices:** Students will: (Intermediate) 1.3C.12int.Re7a: Explain the reasons for selecting music Select citing characteristics found in the music and connections to Analyze

- interest, purpose and context.
- 1.3C.12int.Re7b: Describe how understanding context and the way the elements of music are manipulated informthe response to music.
- 1.3C.12int.Re8a: Identify and support interpretations of the expressive intent and meaning of musical works, citing as evidence the treatment of the elements of musiccontexts and the setting of the text (when appropriate).
- Interpret
- Evaluate

Lesson Examples:

- Concert music selection
- Concert music vote
- "What makes a good performance" project

• 1.3C.12int.Re9a: Explain the influence of experiences, analysis and context on interest in and evaluation of music.

Career-Ready Practices

CRP1: Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.

CRP2: Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.

CRP3: Attend to personal health and financial well-being.

CRP4: Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.

CRP5: Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.

CRP6: Demonstrate creativity and innovation.

CRP7: Employ valid and reliable research strategies.

CRP8: Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

CRP9: Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.

CRP10: Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.

CRP11: Use technology to enhance productivity.

CRP12: Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

- Self reflection
- Peer feedback
- Teacher feedback

Differentiation Assessments

Interdisciplinary Connections

• *See Addendum "Interdisciplinary Connections"

Technology Integration

• Audio and video recordings

Media Literacy Integration

lacktriangle

Global Perspectives

• Music from a variety of cultures, time periods, and/or traditions.

Supports for English Language Learners		
Sensory Supports	Graphic Supports	Interactive Supports

Formative Assessments:

- In class discussions
- Self reflection
- Peer feedback
- Teacher feedback

Summative Assessments, Projects, and Celebrations:

- Concert music vote
- "What makes a good performance?" project
- Evaluation rubrics
- Concert reflection

Real-life objects	Charts	In pairs or partners
Manipulatives	Graphic Organizers	In triands or small groups
Pictures	Tables	In a whole group
Illustrations, diagrams & drawings	Graphs	Using cooperative group
Magazines & Newspapers	Timelines	Structures
Physical activities	Number lines	Internet / Software support
Videos & Film		In the home language
Broadcasts		With mentors
Models & Figures		

Intervention Strategies			
Accommodations Interventions		Modifications	
Allow for verbal responses	Multi-sensory techniques	Modified tasks/expectations	
Repeat/confirm directions	Increase task structure (e.g. directions, checks for understanding, feedback	Differentiated materials	
Permit response provided via computer or electronic device	Increase opportunities to engage in active academic responding	Individualized assessment tools based on student need	
Audio Books	Utilize pre-reading strategies and activities previews, anticipatory guides, and semantic mapping	Modified assessment grading	

Artistic Process: Connecting

Big Ideas: Course Objectives/Content Statement(s)

- Anchor Standard 10 (AS10) Synthesizing and relating knowledge and personal experiences to create products.
- Anchor Standard 11 (AS11) Relating artistic ideas and works within societal, cultural, and historical contexts to deepen understanding.

Essential Questions What provocative questions will foster inquiry, understanding, and transfer of learning?	Enduring Understandings What will students understand about the big ideas?
 AS10 - How do musicians make meaningful connections to creating, performing, and responding? AS11 - How do the other arts, other disciplines, contexts, and daily life inform creating, performing, and responding to music? 	AS10 & AS11 - Musicians connect their personal interests, experiences, ideas, and knowledge to creating, performing, and responding.
Areas of Focus: Proficiencies (New Jersey Student Learning Standards)	Lessons
• 1.3C.12int.Cn10a: Demonstrate understanding of relationships between music and the other arts, other disciplines, varied contexts, and daily life. *This Performance Expectation is embedded in the following Artistic Processes: 1.3A.12int.Cr2a, 1.3A.12int.Cr3b, 1.3A.12int.Pr5b, 1.3A.12int.Re7a Career-Ready Practices CRP1: Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee. CRP2: Apply appropriate academic and technical skills. CRP3: Attend to personal health and financial well-being. CRP4: Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason. CRP5: Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions. CRP6: Demonstrate creativity and innovation. CRP7: Employ valid and reliable research strategies. CRP8: Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems	Guiding Practices: Interconnection Lesson Examples: Music practice like sports practice Orchestra "team" Practice v. Game (concert) Film, videogame, and other cultural musics Music as a science (soundwaves, vibration, etc.) Music as math (rhythms, time signatures, etc.) Music as language (notation, alphabet, etc.)

and persevere in solving them.

CRP9: Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.

CRP10: Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.

CRP11: Use technology to enhance productivity.

CRP12: Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

Differentiation

Interdisciplinary Connections

• *See Addendum "Interdisciplinary Connections"

Technology Integration

- Audio and video recordings
- Music practice software

Media Literacy Integration

- Analyze and compare the pros and cons of print and electronic texts that support an author or composer's opinion
- Evaluate various media messages for credibility
- Compare and contrast how the various forms of media cover composers and music genres
- Live vs. recorded music
- Implications of copyright laws/fair use

Global Perspectives

- Music and composers of various cultures are assessed and studied and students will be able to find similarities and differences.
- Understand and demonstrate individual, social and civic responsibility, including a global concern, tolerance, and respect for others.

Supports for English Language Learners Sensory Supports Graphic Supports Interactive Supports Real-life objects Charts In pairs or partners Manipulatives Graphic Organizers In triands or small

Assessments

• In class discussions

Formative Assessments:

• Video submissions

Summative Assessments, Projects, and Celebrations:

- Identifying students place in the orchestra
- Fluency with written music notation
- Music matching activity (match music to a scene)

		groups
Pictures	Tables	In a whole group
Illustrations, diagrams & drawings	Graphs	Using cooperative group
Magazines & Newspapers	Timelines	Structures
Physical activities	Number lines	Internet / Software support
Videos & Film		In the home language
Broadcasts		With mentors
Models & Figures		

Intervention Strategies			
Accommodations	Interventions	Modifications	
Allow for verbal responses	Multi-sensory techniques	Modified tasks/expectations	
Repeat/confirm directions	Increase task structure (e.g. directions, checks for understanding, feedback		
Permit response provided via computer or electronic device	Increase opportunities to engage in active academic responding	Individualized assessment tools based on student need	
Audio Books	Utilize pre-reading strategies and activities previews, anticipatory guides, and semantic mapping	Modified assessment grading	

Recommended Texts to Support:

- Essential Elements for Strings Bk.2
- Essential Technique for Strings Bk.3
- Advanced Technique for Strings Bk.4
- New Directions for Strings Bk.2
- Suzuki Method Books Vol. 1+
- Various Etude Collections (Wohlfahrt, Schradiek, Preparing for Kreutzer, Introducing the Positions, Melodious Double Stops, etc.)
- CDs and DVDs which accompany methods books
- Fiddlers Philharmonic
- Various and varied orchestral pieces and arrangements ranging from Grade 1-3.5 (on a 6 point scale)

Curricular Addendum

Interdisciplinary Connections:

MATH IN RHYTHM & TIME

Horizontal / X-axis – represents time Measure – the distance between two things; the amount of something

Ruler – used to measure distances and amounts

Fraction – note names, values/durations

Percent – note names, values/durations

Ratio – relative note values

Add – ties

Multiply – dotted notes (x1.5)

Numerator – top number of a time signature

MATH IN PITCH & HARMONY

Graph – used to plot points or specific pitches

Vertical / Y-axis – represents specific pitches

Distance – vertical distances are intervals

Odd / Even – scale degrees make a tertian chord; on violin & viola, odd numbered fingers are line notes and even numbered fingers are space notes

PATTERNS & FORM

Pattern – repeated rhythms or pitches

Sequence – pattern starting in a different place

Inversion – pattern turned upside-down

Reverse – backwards patter, or retrograde

Multiply note values creates elongation

Divide note values creates diminution

GEOGRAPHY

Map – visual representation of a complex thing

Symbols – visual representation of individual things

Coordinates – horizontal and vertical markers

Legend – list of symbols to know and understand

HISTORY

Timeline – represents time horizontally

Biography – information about a person

Context – where, when, and why

Purpose – the author or composer's message Influence – the effect of the work

READING

Following – eyes move left to right / top to bottom

Decoding – know that symbols represent sounds Fluency – perform symbols accurately in time

LANGUAGE

Root-word – part of a word with meaning across disciplines (ex: uni, duo, tri, and oct)

COMPOSITION & LITERATURE

Vocabulary – interpret meaning

Rhythm & Rhyme – small patterns uniting a work

Phrases / Sentences - small section or idea

Punctuation – separates small sections

Form – organizes ideas

Beginning, Middle, End – form of a work

Theme & Variation – form of a work

Development – an in-depth section of a work

Meaning – composer or author's message

Language – lyrics as poetry

SCIENCE OF SOUND

Aerophone – vibrating air (woodwind & brass)

Chordophone – vibrating string Idiophone – vibrating instrument (cymbals)

Membranophone – vibrating membrane (drums)

Electrophone – electronically created sound

Amplitude – measures volume

Frequency - measures pitch

High / Low Frequency – small / large instruments

Overtone / Partial / Harmonic – frequencies proportional to a fundamental frequency

Timbre – quality of the sound that makes it distinct

Waveform – visual representation of timbre

ART CONCEPTS IN MUSIC

Up / Down – pitch as height; woodwind and piano fingerings mimic melodic height exactly

Line / Contour / Shape - connecting the dots (note heads) represents the melodic contour

Smooth / Jagged – using intervals of steps / skips

Flowing / Interrupted – non / continuous melody

Foreground / Background – relative importance

Form – organized sections

Colors / Shades - sound described as color

Affect – the mood or emotions the work induces

MOVEMENT IN MUSIC

Time – length of time, and speed of pulse

Movement – sound as horizontal/vertical,forward/backward, smooth/jagged, large/small

Space – music notation represents sounds in space

Energy – volume and forward movement in line Muscle Memory – repetitive motion becomes automatic Gross Motor Skills – for marching and percussion Fine Motor Skills – for piano, winds, strings