

J.E. Cosgriff School

Mr. Zach Downes

Sixth Grade Music Curriculum

My curriculum will sequence music skill and objectives that support the National Standards for Arts Education, which in turn influenced the Utah State Music Core, as well as that of our Diocese.

Objectives are organized into five conceptual areas: rhythm, melody, harmony, form, and timbre.

Students approach objectives through a variety of experiences: moving, speaking, singing, listening, playing, reading, and notating.

Lessons unfold through different states of learning: imitation, exploration, improvisation, and visualization.

Objectives are presented through different stages of teaching: introduction, reinforcement, and assessment.

Students will play pitched instruments like marimba, glockenspiels, metallophones, and xylophones,. A sampling of the some of the un-pitched instruments include claves, wood blocks, guiros, cabasas, maracas, rain sticks, tambourines, triangles, cowbells, hand drums, congas, djembe, snare and bass drums.

We begin the year using the online music theory program *Breezin' Thru Theory* and our text *Making Music* a program based on the belief that active music making is the best approach in developing a lifelong appreciation for music. In our first unit, we will review the basic elements of music and music theory. We will focus on note names, rhythm, and time signatures. Our second unit will be preparing the 6th grade ensemble pieces for the Christmas concert. The third unit, *Say It With Drums*, demonstrates how today's music is influenced from drumming from around the world. Students will listen to drums from around the world, create and play drums ensemble pieces, and sing and move to music from world cultures. We end the year preparing music for the May Fine Arts concert and *Learning the Language of Music*, a continuation in our study of music theory. In *Learning the Language of Music* our focus will be on expression, rhythm, form, melody, timbre, and texture/harmony. Please be sure your student is available to perform for the May Fine Arts concert.

A sampling of songs they will sing and listen to include: America, American the Beautiful, Danny Boy, Dona Nobis Pacem, Hava Nagila, Old Joe Clark, Scarborough Fair, The Water is Wide, Yesterday, Simple Gifts, In The Mood, Hayden and Mozart Symphonies, Vivaldi's The Seasons, West Side Story, and The Star Spangled Banner