J.E. Cosgriff School

Mr. Zach Downes

Seventh 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, listing, 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 our the brand new online music theory program *Breezin' Thru Theory* and the text *The Music Connection,* a series comprised of an extensive library of songs and listening selections, state of the art recordings, and the resources necessary of it's implementation. Unit 1 we will review music theory with a study of rhythm, melody, harmony, tone color, and form. The second unit of our year is dedicated to the 7th grades role as orchestral accompaniment for Cosgriff's Christmas Pageant. We prepare the instrumental solo pieces to performed on our Orff instruments. Music skills studied and developed include arranging, ensemble performance, as well as technique with mallet instruments (xylophones, metallophones and glockenspiels), drums and hand- held percussion (woods and metals). Next, in unit three we study the African influence on our music as well as that of the world. We finish the year with a unit devoted to the listening and analysis of recorded music. We will work to identify and understand things like time signature, instrumentation, tonality, and form.