

DEPARTMENTAL CURRICULUM PROFILE

DEPARTMENT: Instrumental Music & Chorus

INSTRUCTOR: John Mayo

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The LDNE Instrumental Music Department is a comprehensive program designed to meet the diverse needs of students in grades 5-12.

PHILOSOPHY

The LDNE Instrumental Music Department exists assist in the development of musical and life skills of students through the performance of instrumental music.

OBJECTIVES IN THE MUSIC PROGRAM

- 1) Develop active citizens who contribute positively to society.
- 2) Develop life long musicians
- 3) Perform diverse music
- 4) Students will master rehearsal and performance technique

Core skills they will have when they leave

- 1) Demonstrate basic rehearsal and performance technique
- 2) Understanding of basic music terminology and music theory
- 3) Performance of diverse music styles

STRENGTHS OF THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

- 1) (Music Ability
 - a. Rational: The majority of the students in the program have the talent of singing. With the right motivation they can very good
1. Elementary Participation
 - a. Rational: Nearly all of 5th grade (89%) and the majority of 6th grade (68%) students participate in the instrumental music program
2. Community Support
 - a. Rational: The community has grown up with a music program that they can be proud of and they want to see that same success in the present day program

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

(The following are all generalizations and not true of all students)

1. Basic Music Terms and Music Theory Comprehension
 - a. Rational-Students do not understand basic music vocabulary or music theory need to help with rehearsals.
2. Morale/School Pride
 - a. Rational-Students' motivation is not very high in the music program. Students have more of a "what's in it for me" mentality. They want to be catered to and entertained and when they are not they would rather sit in a study hall than put forth effort. I believe this comes from a lack of school pride and morale.
3. Ensemble Offerings
 - a. Rational-Students are missing out on half of what band has to offer. Band is so much more than concert band and pep band. Jazz band, small ensembles, and marching band have so much to offer.
4. Parent Involvement
 - a. Rational-Parental involvement in Music boosters is at a minimum.
5. Staff Numbers
 - a. Rational-There is one staff member for the entire secondary music program. A healthy program at a school of this size has one staff member in charge of vocal music and one in charge of instrumental music. The ones who see the immediate result and suffer as a result are the students and community. What a school says when they reduce staff is that they are will to risk a program to save money.
6. Time/Frequency with 5-7 band students
 - a. Rational-Students achievement in instrumental music is directly correlated to the amount of time and the frequency at which the students see the instructor. Currently students in grades 5-8 only see the music director every other day. The 5-6 graders see the music director every other day for only 25 minutes each time. The optimal situation would either increase the frequency or time that is spent with the instructor.

Music Course Descriptions

High School Chorus

Length: 50 minutes

Grade Levels: 9-12

Description: Senior High Chorus is designed to develop the skills learned in Jr. High Chorus to prepare students for scholarship auditions and participate in college vocal ensembles. Emphasis is placed upon the elements of music, exposure to various styles and composers, and improving technical ability through performances for concerts and solo/ensemble contests.

Music Appreciation

Length: 50 Minutes

Grade Levels: 9-12

Description: This course is designed to expose the student with many different styles of music through by learning guitar techniques.

Junior High Chorus

Length: 50 Minutes

Grade Levels: 7-8

Description: Junior High Choir is designed to develop the skills learned in Elementary Music to a further extent. Emphasis is placed upon the elements of music, exposure to various styles and composers, and improving technical ability through performances at concerts, and solo/ensemble contests.

Junior High Band

Length: 50 Minutes

Grade Levels: 7-8

Description: Junior High Band is designed to develop the skills learned in Elementary Band to a further extent. Emphasis is placed upon the elements of music, exposure to various styles and composers, and improving technical ability through performances for athletic events, concerts, and solo/ensemble contests.

(Course) 5th Grade Band

Length: 25 Minutes

Grade Levels: 5

Description: 5th Grade band is designed to introduce student to instrumental music building on the foundation of skills learned in elementary music. Emphasis is placed on the elements of music, producing a clean tone, technique, work ethic, and attitude through performances at concerts.

6th Grade Band

Length: 25 Minutes

Grade Levels: 6

Description: 5th Grade band is designed to develop the skills learned in 5th Grade Band. Emphasis is placed on the elements of music, producing a clean tone, technique, work ethic, and attitude through performances at concerts.

Departmental Profile

High School Band

Length: 50 Minutes

Grade Levels: 9-12

Description: Senior High Band is designed to develop the skills learned in Jr. High Band to prepare students for scholarship auditions and participate in college instrumental ensembles. Emphasis is placed upon the elements of music, exposure to various styles and composers, and improving technical ability through performances for athletic events, concerts, and solo/ensemble contests.

Music Technology

Length: 50 Minutes

Grade Levels: 9-12

Description: Music Technology is designed to expose student to various aspects of music that involves technology. Students will demonstrate mastery of the Simplified Online Communications System (S.O.C.S.), garage band software, imove software, and perform using tablet computers or smart phones, and develop a basic understanding of beginning sound engineering.

COURSE SEQUENCE

- 1) Pre-k Elementary Music Classes
- 2) Fifth Grade Band
- 3) 6th Grade Band
- 4) Jr. High Band
- 5) High School Band