

General Music Curriculum for Queen of Heaven School

Music Curriculum for grades Pre- Kindergarten and Kindergarten: Grades Pre-K and K will explore music (sound) by being introduced to the concepts of: Pitch (high and low), Tempo (fast and slow), Dynamics (loud and soft) and Rhythm (long and short). Students will demonstrate knowledge of these musical concepts through: Rhythm and movement, opposites and singing age appropriate songs.

1st and 2nd Grades: 1st and 2nd grades will continue building on the concepts of sound (vibration), pitch tempo, dynamics and rhythm through reading, listening, singing, moving and playing. Instrument families (Brass, Woodwind, String and Percussion) will be introduced to all students at this level through listening, looking and playing. Students will learn and understand the characteristics that categorize instrument families.

3rd, 4th and 5th Grades: Reading music is the focus for all 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students. Learning to read music will be accomplished by learning to play the soprano recorder. Knowledge of the staff, treble clef, time signature, rhythm (notes, rests and time values) and articulation will be demonstrated by the students ability to read and play. Introduction to classical and popular music eras will be explored through: Reading, listening and discussion. Resources will include the “ Share the Music” textbook series and the internet.

Middle School/ Grades 6, 7 and 8: Middle school students will explore and learn about different music genres (Classical, Jazz, Blues and Rock) through: Reading, listening, discussing, researching and playing. Students will also be introduced to a chronology of American music. Students will read, listen to, discuss and play music dating from the 1900s through 2000 using the “ Share the Music” series textbook. Middle school students will also be introduced to Major harmony. Students will learn how to harmonize the major scale, demonstrate how chords are built from a scale and how chords and scales are used in composing chord progressions and melodies. Through this process students will learn about the four elements of music (melody, harmony, rhythm and texture) and develop a greater appreciation for music and it’s role in society.