

Essential Standards and Course Descriptions

Grades 5-8 Band

Hortonville Middle School | Greenville Middle School

The following document has been created with our parents in mind. The purpose is to communicate with parents related to the 'essential standards' being taught for every subject and in every grade level. Included is also a brief course description written by a collaborative team of teachers representing both middle schools. As a school district, we believe very strongly that although we have two unique middle schools, both schools must ensure a guaranteed and viable curriculum. What this means is that the same 'essential' learning being taught at HMS will also be taught at GMS to ensure that EVERY student, regardless of enrollment, will be prepared to enter Hortonville High School having learned prioritized academic and behavioral expectations.

What is an 'essential standard'? Every school district adopts academic standards for every area of study. The Hortonville Area School District is no different. Unfortunately, not all standards are created equal. This means that some standards have been predetermined by the teaching faculty as most critical or 'essential' for students to learn and demonstrate before moving on to the next grade level. These standards are assessed and reported out to parents on progress reports (formerly called report cards). We sometimes call these our 'must know' standards. This is not to say that all other standards, or 'nice to know standards', are not covered, but they may not be covered to the same level as our 'essential standards'.



Subject: 5th-8th Grade Band (Woodwinds and Brass)

Course Description: Band is a musical ensemble that provides students with learning and performance opportunities on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. The focus of the course is on the development of music literacy and performance skills. In addition to large group ensemble, musical knowledge and growth is achieved through weekly individual lessons. Advanced students are encouraged to participate in many optional musical activities such as jazz band, honors bands, and Solo & Ensemble festival.

Essential Standards Taught:

- **POSTURE, HAND POSITION, BREATH/STICK CONTROL**

B.8.8 Perform on at least one instrument accurately and independently, alone and in small and large ensembles, and with good posture, good playing position, and good breath, bow, or stick control

- **NOTE ACCURACY**

B.8.8 Perform on at least one instrument accurately and independently, alone and in small and large ensembles, and with good posture, good playing position, and good breath, bow, or stick control

- 5th Grade: Notes in the Concert B^b & E^b Scales
- 6th Grade: Notes in the Concert B^b, E^b, Chromatic, & A^b Scales; Rules for Accidentals
- 7th Grade: Notes in the Concert B^b, E^b, Chromatic, A^b, F, & C Scales; Rules for Accidentals
- 8th Grade: Notes in the Concert B^b, E^b, Chromatic, A^b, F, C, & G Scales; Rules for Accidentals

- **CONCERT LITERATURE**

B.8.9 Perform, with expression and technical accuracy on a band or orchestral instrument, a repertoire of instrumental literature with a level of difficulty of three on a scale of one to six

- 5th Grade: Literature Grade .5-1.0 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 6th Grade: Literature Grade 1.0-2.0 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 7th Grade: Literature Grade 1.5-2.5 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 8th Grade: Literature Grade 2.0-3.0 with technical accuracy & musical expression

- **COMPOSITION**

D.8.8 Compose short pieces within specific guidelines, demonstrating use of the elements of music

- 5th Grade: 8-measure composition in 4/4 time using the notes in the Concert Bb scale
- 6th Grade: 8, 12, or 16-measure composition in 2/4, 3/4, or 4/4 time using the Concert Bb or Concert Eb pentatonic scales and an alternate ending
- 7th Grade: 12-measure composition using a Theme and Variations format in the key of Concert Ab or Concert F
- 8th Grade: 8-measure composition using a 6/8 time signature

- **RHYTHM**

E.8.9 Read whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, and dotted notes and rests in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 3/8, and alla breve (2/2) meter signatures

- 5th Grade: whole note & rest, dotted half note, half note & rest, quarter note & rest, eighth note pairs, extended rests
- 6th Grade: All 5th Grade rhythms + dotted quarter note, single eighth note & rest, eighth-quarter-eighth syncopation
- 7th Grade: All 6th Grade rhythms + sixteenth notes & eighth-sixteenth note combinations
- 8th Grade: All 7th Grade rhythms + sixteenth-eighth-sixteenth syncopation, triplets, & Swing Style

- **VOCABULARY**

E.8.11 Identify and define standard notation symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamic, tempo, articulation, and expression

- 5th Grade: bass clef, treble clef, key signature, sharp, flat, natural, time signature, whole note & rest, dotted half note, half note & rest, quarter note & rest, eighth note pairs, extended rests, piano, mezzo piano, mezzo forte, forte, crescendo, decrescendo, tongue, slur, tie, staccato, accent, breath mark, measure, bar line, fermata, repeat, first & second endings
- 6th Grade: All 5th Grade vocabulary + accidental, dotted quarter note, single eighth note, single eighth rest, syncopation, diminuendo, fortissimo, ritardando, rallentando, accelerando, marcato, tenuto, legato, pick up notes, D.C. al Fine, D.C. al Coda, D.S. al Fine, D.S. al Coda
- 7th Grade: All 6th Grade vocabulary + sixteenth notes, pianissimo, subito, Allegro, Moderato, Andante, Tempo I, a tempo, molto, poco a poco, divisi, trill, repeat measure sign
- 8th Grade: All 7th Grade vocabulary + triplets, swing style, forte-piano, sforzando

- **SIGHT-READING**

E.8.13 Sight-read, accurately and expressively, music with a level of difficulty of two on a scale of one to six

- 5th Grade: Literature Grade .5 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 6th Grade: Literature Grade 1.0 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 7th Grade: Literature Grade 1.5 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 8th Grade: Literature Grade 2.0 with technical accuracy & musical expression

Subject: 5th-8th Grade Band (Percussion)

Course Description: Band is a musical ensemble that provides students with learning and performance opportunities on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. The focus of the course is on the development of music literacy and performance skills. In addition to large group ensemble, musical knowledge and growth is achieved through weekly individual lessons. Advanced students are encouraged to participate in many optional musical activities such as jazz band, honors bands, and Solo & Ensemble festival.

Essential Standards Taught:

- **POSTURE, HAND POSITION, BREATH/STICK CONTROL**

B.8.8 Perform on at least one instrument accurately and independently, alone and in small and large ensembles, and with good posture, good playing position, and good breath, bow, or stick control

- **NOTE ACCURACY**

B.8.8 Perform on at least one instrument accurately and independently, alone and in small and large ensembles, and with good posture, good playing position, and good breath, bow, or stick control

- 5th Grade: Notes in the Concert B^b & E^b Scales
- 6th Grade: Notes in the Concert B^b, E^b, Chromatic, & A^b Scales; Rules for Accidentals
- 7th Grade: Notes in the Concert B^b, E^b, Chromatic, A^b, F, & C Scales; Rules for Accidentals
- 8th Grade: Notes in the Concert B^b, E^b, Chromatic, A^b, F, C, & G Scales; Rules for Accidentals

- **CONCERT LITERATURE**

B.8.9 Perform, with expression and technical accuracy on a band or orchestral instrument, a repertoire of instrumental literature with a level of difficulty of three on a scale of one to six

- 5th Grade: Literature Grade .5-1.0 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 6th Grade: Literature Grade 1.0-2.0 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 7th Grade: Literature Grade 1.5-2.5 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 8th Grade: Literature Grade 2.0-3.0 with technical accuracy & musical expression

- **COMPOSITION**

D.8.8 Compose short pieces within specific guidelines, demonstrating use of the elements of music

- 5th Grade: 8-measure composition in 4/4 time using the notes in the Concert B^b scale
- 6th Grade: 8, 12, or 16-measure composition in 2/4, 3/4, or 4/4 time using the Concert B^b or Concert E^b pentatonic scales and an alternate ending
- 7th Grade: 12-measure composition using a Theme and Variations format in the key of Concert A^b or Concert F
- 8th Grade: 8-measure composition using a 6/8 time signature

- **RHYTHM**

E.8.9 Read whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, and dotted notes and rests in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 3/8, and alla breve (2/2) meter signatures

- 5th Grade: whole note & rest, dotted half note, half note & rest, quarter note & rest, eighth note pairs, single eighth notes & rests, sixteenth notes, eighth-sixteenth note combinations, extended rests, rebound strokes, flams, nine-stroke rolls
- 6th Grade: All 5th Grade rhythms + dotted quarter note, eighth-quarter-eighth syncopation, five-stroke rolls, seventeen-stroke rolls, extended rolls (whole notes & longer)
- 7th Grade: All 5th & 6th Grade rhythms reviewed
- 8th Grade: All 5th & 6th Grade rhythms + sixteenth-eighth-sixteenth syncopation, triplets, Swing Style, rolls in 3/8 & 6/8 time

- **VOCABULARY**

E.8.11 Identify and define standard notation symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamic, tempo, articulation, and expression

- 5th Grade: bass clef, treble clef, key signature, sharp, flat, natural, time signature, whole note & rest, dotted half note, half note & rest, quarter note & rest, eighth note pairs, extended rests, piano, mezzo piano, mezzo forte, forte, crescendo, decrescendo, tongue, slur, tie, staccato, accent, breath mark, measure, bar line, fermata, repeat, first & second endings

- 6th Grade: All 5th Grade vocabulary + accidental, dotted quarter note, single eighth note, single eighth rest, syncopation, diminuendo, fortissimo, ritardando, rallentando, accelerando, marcato, tenuto, legato, pick up notes, D.C. al Fine, D.C. al Coda, D.S. al Fine, D.S. al Coda
- 7th Grade: All 6th Grade vocabulary + sixteenth notes, pianissimo, subito, Allegro, Moderato, Andante, Tempo I, a tempo, molto, poco a poco, divisi, trill, repeat measure sign
- 8th Grade: All 7th Grade vocabulary + triplets, swing style, forte-piano, sforzando

- **SIGHT-READING**

E.8.13 Sight-read, accurately and expressively, music with a level of difficulty of two on a scale of one to six

- 5th Grade: Literature Grade .5 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 6th Grade: Literature Grade 1.0 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 7th Grade: Literature Grade 1.5 with technical accuracy & musical expression
- 8th Grade: Literature Grade 2.0 with technical accuracy & musical expression