

NORTHEAST COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC STANDARDS AND BENCHMARKS

Music Standard #1: Perform music independently and with others using the voice and instruments.

Benchmarks for Music Standard #1:

- I. Understand the importance of public performance.
- II. Understand and demonstrate appropriate concert behavior.
- III. Understand and demonstrate appropriate audience behavior.
- IV. Understand and demonstrate correct technique on instrument.
- V. Understand and demonstrate proper behavior in rehearsals.
- VI. Demonstrate individual growth through private lessons with band director.
- VII. Understand the importance of individual practice on instrument.
- VIII. Understand and demonstrate proper care and maintenance of instrument.

Benchmark I: Understand the importance of public performance.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and discuss why public performance is good for public relations as it relates to the school, music program, and the individual.
- Understand and discuss how public performance influences the individual's growth and success.
- Understand and discuss the importance of public performances by various types of instrumental music groups such as marching band and pep band.

Benchmark II: Understand and demonstrate appropriate concert behavior.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and demonstrate proper concert attire for performers.
- Understand and demonstrate appropriate stage behavior such as how to enter and exit the stage, proper facial expressions while on stage, and what to do in the event that something unexpected happens while on stage.
- Understand and demonstrate how to accept applause from the audience by smiling, facing the audience, and not moving, turning music, talking, or behaving in other disrespectful ways.

Benchmark III: Understand and demonstrate appropriate audience behavior.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

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- Understand and demonstrate the importance of sitting quietly and attentively as an audience member during a performance.
- Understand and demonstrate the appropriate times for applause during a performance: when the performer(s) enter and exit, after each piece is finished, and not between movements of multi-movement pieces.
- Understand and demonstrate the importance of not disrupting a performance or the viewing of a performance by entering or exiting a concert other than at the beginning or end of that concert. If one must enter or exit during a concert, it should be done between pieces and never during a piece.

Benchmark IV: Understand and demonstrate correct technique on instrument.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and demonstrate the importance of good posture while playing an instrument.
- Understand and demonstrate the correct way to hold their instrument.
- Understand and demonstrate correct fingerings/positions/sticking on their instrument.
- Understand and demonstrate appropriate tonguing on their instrument.
- Understand and demonstrate proper breath support and control on their instrument.
- Understand and demonstrate proper embouchure/stick grip on their instrument.
- Understand and demonstrate a good tone quality on their instrument.
- Demonstrate ability to play major scales, up to four flats and four sharps, and chromatic scale on their instrument.
- Be exposed to minor scales.

Benchmark V: Understand and demonstrate proper behavior in rehearsals.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and demonstrate the importance of paying attention during rehearsals.
- Understand and demonstrate the importance of playing and talking only at appropriate times during rehearsals.
- Understand and demonstrate the importance of watching the director during rehearsals.
- Understand and demonstrate the importance of using care while around own instrument and others' instruments.
- Understand and demonstrate the importance of respecting the school's property and that of other students.
- Understand the importance of a pencil in rehearsal and use one appropriately.

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Benchmark VI: Demonstrate individual growth through private lessons with band director.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand the importance of individual lessons with the band director.
- Attend an appropriate number of lessons each quarter.
- Show improvement from one lesson to the next.
- Show understanding and improvement during each lesson.

Benchmark VII: Understand the importance of individual practice on instrument.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand the importance of individual practice.
- Practice an appropriate period of time each week.
- Understand how to make progress during individual practice.

Benchmark VIII: Understand and demonstrate proper care and maintenance of instrument.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand the importance of proper care and maintenance of instruments.
- Demonstrate proper care of instrument.
- Demonstrate proper routine maintenance of instrument.

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Music Standard #2: Ability to read, notate, and interpret music.

Benchmarks for Music Standard #2:

- I. Understand and utilize basic music terminology.
- II. Ability to identify notes on the music staff.
- III. Identify and be able to play different rhythms.
- IV. Identify and be able to play in different time signatures.
- V. Identify and be able to play in different key signatures.
- VI. Identify and demonstrate different articulations.
- VII. Identify and demonstrate different tempos.
- VIII. Identify and demonstrate different dynamics.
- IX. Identify and be able to follow different signs and symbols in music.
- X. Understand and demonstrate ability to sight-read music.

Benchmark I: Understand and utilize basic music terminology.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and demonstrate the following musical terms: staff, line, space, measure, bar line, double bar line, note, rest, sharp, flat, natural sign, accidental, treble clef, bass clef, beat, chromatic notes/scales, solo, duo, trio, ensemble, a2, soli, embouchure, enharmonic, step, half-step, interval, melody, harmony, ledger lines, phrase, pick-up notes, scale, simile, theme and variations, trio, woodwinds, brass, percussion, etc.

Benchmark II: Ability to identify notes on the music staff.

After completing grades 5-8, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Identify notes on the staff in the clef of their instrument.
- Identify notes on ledger lines above and below the staff in the clef of their instrument.

After completing grades 9-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Identify notes on the staff in both treble and bass clef.
- Identify notes on ledger lines above and below the staff in both treble and bass clef.

Benchmark III: Identify and be able to play different rhythms.

After completing grades 5-6, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Identify and use the following notes in duple meters: whole note, dotted-half note, half note, dotted-quarter note, quarter note, eighth note, sixteenth note .

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- Identify and use the following rests in duple meters: whole rest, dotted-half rest, half rest, dotted-quarter rest, quarter rest, eighth rest, sixteenth rest.

After completing grades 7-8, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Identify and use the following notes in duple meters: whole note, dotted-half note, half note, dotted-quarter note, quarter note, eighth note, sixteenth note, dotted-eighth note, triplet-eighth notes.
- Identify and use the following rests in duple meters: whole rest, dotted-half rest, half rest, dotted-quarter rest, quarter rest, eighth rest, sixteenth rest, dotted-eighth rest.
- Begin to identify and use the following notes in triple meters: dotted-half note, half note, doubled-quarter note, quarter note, eighth note.
- Begin to identify and use the following rests in triple meters: dotted-half rest, half rest, dotted-quarter rest, quarter rest, eighth rest.

After completing grades 9-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Identify and use the following notes in duple meters: whole note, dotted-half note, half note, dotted-quarter note, quarter note, eighth note, sixteenth note, dotted-eighth note, triplet-eighth notes, triplet-sixteenth notes, triplet-quarter notes.
- Identify and use the following rests in duple meters: whole rest, dotted-half rest, half rest, dotted-quarter rest, quarter rest, eighth rest, sixteenth rest, dotted-eighth rest, triplet-eighth rest, triplet-quarter rest.
- Identify and use the following notes in triple meters: dotted-half note, half note, dotted-quarter note, quarter note, eighth note, sixteenth note, duplet-eighth notes.
- Identify and use the following rests in triple meters: dotted-half rest, half rest, dotted-quarter rest, quarter rest, eighth rest, sixteenth rest.

Benchmark IV: Identify and be able to play in different time signatures.

After completing grades 5-6, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Identify and play in the following duple meters: 4/4, 2/4, 3/4, Common Time

After completing grades 7-8, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Identify and play in the following duple meters: 4/4, 2/4, 3/4, Common Time
- Begin to identify and play in Cut Time.
- Begin to identify and play in the following triple meters: 6/8, 3/8

After completing grades 9-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Identify and play in the following duple meters: 4/4, 2/4, 3/4, Common Time, Cut Time, 5/4
- Identify and play in the following triple meters: 6/8, 3/8, 9/8
- Begin to identify and play in the following complex meters: 5/8, 7/8

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Benchmark V: Identify and be able to play in different key signatures.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and play in *key* signatures using up to five flats and sharps.
- Know the order of flats and sharps in a key signature.
- Understand and play accidentals within music.

Benchmark VI: Identify and demonstrate different articulations.

After completing grades 5-6, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Identify and play the following articulations: accent, tie, slur

After completing grades 7-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Identify and play the following articulations: accent, tie, slur, staccato, legato/tenuto, marcato accent, tenuto-staccato, tenuto-accent, marcato-staccato accent

Benchmark VII: Identify and demonstrate different tempos.

After completing grades 5-6, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and demonstrate the following tempos: Allegro, Andante, Largo, Moderato

After completing grades 7-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and demonstrate the following tempos: Allegro, Andante, Largo, Moderato, Adagio, Presto, Vivo, Allegretto
- Understand and demonstrate the following tempo-related terminology: ritard, ritardando, rallentando, allargando, accelerando, poco a poco

Benchmark VIII: Identify and demonstrate different dynamics.

After completing grades 5-6, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and demonstrate the following dynamic markings: Crescendo, Decrescendo, Diminuendo, Forte, Mezzo Forte, Piano, Mezzo Piano

After completing grades 7-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and demonstrate the following dynamic markings: Crescendo, Decrescendo, Diminuendo, Forte, Mezzo Forte, Piano, Mezzo Piano, Pianissimo, Fortissimo, Fonississimo, Fone-Piano, Sforzando
- Understand and demonstrate phrasing within a musical line.

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Benchmark IX: Identify and be able to follow different signs and symbols in music.

After completing grades 5-6, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and demonstrate the following signs/symbols in music: Fine, D.C. al Fine, Breath Mark, Fermata, 1st and 2nd endings, Multiple Measure Rests, Repeat Sign

After completing grades 7-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand and demonstrate the following signs/symbols in music: Fine, D.C. al Fine, Breath Mark, Fermata, 1st and 2nd endings, Multiple Measure Rests, Repeat Sign, Coda, D.C. al Coda, al Segno, D.S. al Fine, D.S. al Coda, Measure Repeat Sign, Multiple-Measure Repeat Sign

Benchmark X: Understand and demonstrate ability to sight-read music.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Understand what to look for in music before sight-reading. (Option: Use the acronym S.T.A.R.S. to remember to look for Sharps and flats in the key signature, Time signature and tempo, Accidentals, Rhythms, Signs/Symbols.)
- Be able to sight-read music at an appropriate level.

Music Standard #3: Listening to, analyzing, and responding to music.

Benchmarks for Music Standard #3:

- I. Develop the ability to listen critically to own playing.
- II. Develop the ability to listen critically to group's playing while participating.
- III. Develop the ability to listen critically to recordings of group's performance or a live performance of another group.
- IV. Be exposed to a variety of genres of music.

Benchmark I: Develop the ability to listen critically to own playing.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Play instrument while listening critically to things such as tone, note accuracy, rhythmic accuracy, articulation accuracy, etc. in own sound.

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Benchmark II: Develop the ability to listen critically to group's playing while participating.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Play instrument while listening critically to things such as tone, note accuracy, rhythmic accuracy, articulation accuracy, togetherness, balance, blend, intonation, etc. in sound of other members of the band.

Benchmark III: Develop the ability to listen critically to recordings of group's performance or a live performance of another group.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Listen critically to things such as tone, note accuracy, rhythmic accuracy, articulation accuracy, togetherness. balance, blend, intonation, etc. in own sound and that of other members of the band while listening to/watching a recording of the band.
- Be able to put these strengths and weaknesses on paper using a standard judging form.

Benchmark IV: Be exposed to a variety or genres or music.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Listen critically to a variety of styles and genres of music and discuss various aspects of this music.

Music Standard #4: Understand the relationship between music and history and culture.

Benchmarks for Music Standard #4:

- I. Be exposed to various composers throughout history.
- II. Be aware of the progress instrumental music has made over time.
- III. Be aware of the impact music has had on society and the impact society has had on music.
- IV. Be exposed to music from various cultures.

Benchmark I: Be exposed to various composers throughout history.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Be familiar with various composer names and major contributions throughout history.
- Be aware of the composer of each piece being performed with the band.

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Benchmark D: Be aware of the progress instrumental music has made over time.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Be familiar with the progress of instrumental bands over the past decades.
- Be familiar with the development of own instrument.
- Be aware of the year each piece being performed with the band was composed.

Benchmark III: Be aware of the impact music has had on society and the impact society has had on music.

After completing grades 5- 12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Be aware that all styles of music, including instrumental music, have evolved and changed as society has changed over time.
- Be aware that some music, including some instrumental music, has had a large impact on society over time.

Benchmark IV: Be exposed to music from various cultures.

After completing grades 5-12, the instrumental music student will be able to:

- Be aware that every culture has its own style of music.
- Be aware of what country/culture each of the pieces being performed with the band is from.