

## MUSIC AND TECHNOLOGY CURRICULUM, 2009 - 2010



The music program is an integral part of the curriculum with all students in K-8 having three music classes per week. The primary goals are: developing an appreciation for music; singing on-pitch; reading music and playing an instrument; dancing cooperatively; taking direction and performing on stage. Basic computer skills and an introduction to music technology are also important components of the program. Students work in groups, individually, and with several faculty members throughout the year in different learning situations.

### Music Faculty:

Alli Lubin - Head of Music Department, Technology Administrator

Carol Cutts - 3-6 Recorder Assistant

Amy Cann - Chorus 5-6; Chorus 7-8 (Nov-Feb); Instrumental Music (7-8 Fall Studio)

Jared Stolper - Primary Music Teacher (Chorus: K-1-2 and 3-4); Guitar (7-8 Fall Studio)

Bahman Mahdavi - Guitar (7-8 Fall Studio)

Lili Bookwalter - 7-8 Musical Director (Spring) - under the mentorship of Rebecca Waxman

### Music Program:

#### Choral

K-1-2 Chorus, 30 minutes per week

3-4 Chorus, 40 minutes per week

5-6: Chorus, 40 minutes per week

7-8 Chorus, 30 minutes during Studio - fall term; 40 minutes Nov - Feb

#### Instrumental

Orff barred instruments (xylophones)

Percussion

7-8 Instrumental Studio, 1 hour per week, choice - fall term

#### Recorders

3-4, 30 minutes per week - soprano

5-6, 50 minutes recorder/study per week - choice of soprano, alto, or tenor

#### Dance

Traditional contras, squares, circles, and lines

International folk (coordinated with social studies units)

Creative modern/improvisation

Dalcroze Eurythmics: feeling the beat, telling stories, and expressing emotions through movement

### Technology/Midi Lab:

Music composition: 3-8

Vermont Midi Project online mentoring: 5-6

Multimedia presentations

Basic computer skills - keyboarding and word processing

Digital still and video photography

### Special Events

As music is an activity to be shared and enjoyed together, many performances and opportunities to sing in a group are scheduled throughout the year. These give a sense of unity to the school, encompassing all ages and bringing much pleasure. At music assemblies, we sing, choruses perform, classes play recorder pieces, and students play instruments that they study outside of school.

It is important to share the joy of music and the accomplishments of the children with their parents, and there are traditionally numerous occasions during the year for special performances to which the public is welcomed. These include:

- 5-8 Winter Holiday Concert: Thursday, Dec. 10, 6:30 pm - snow date Dec. 14
- K-4 Winter Holiday Concert: Tuesday, Dec 15, 6:30 pm - snow date Dec. 16
- Concert Dress rehearsals -TBA
- 7-8 Spring Musical: Wednesday-Saturday, May 5-8, 7:00 pm
- Grandparents' Day: Friday, May 21
- K-6 Spring Concert: Thursday, May 27, 6:30 pm
- Graduation: Eighth graders perform at graduation, Thursday, June 10

The theme of Multicultural Diversity is explored throughout the music program in the learning of songs, dances, and singing games of people around the world and of many different eras. In January, there is a schoolwide focus on Black History Month, when we sing the songs of the Civil Rights Movement and honor Martin Luther King, Jr. at an all-school assembly of songs, poetry, and dramatic readings.

### Sequential Development of Musical Skills and Knowledge

#### Kindergarten

- creative movement
- finger plays
- elements of rhythm and melody

#### First grade

- move to and play a steady beat
- create and play high and low patterns
- identify classroom and orchestral instruments
- AB form

#### Second grade

- on-pitch singing
- begin musical notation
- A-B-A form
- rudimentary counterpoint - melody and rhythm together

Third grade

- begin soprano recorder
- continue musical notation
- melodic and rhythmic dictation
- question and answer patterns
- ear training
- Orff ensemble groups
- computer skills, file management

Fourth grade

- recorder duets
- Orff, percussion, and recorder ensemble groups
- begin music composition
- improvisation
- syncopated rhythms
- computer skills, file management

Fifth and Sixth grades

- major and minor modes
- tonal center of a song
- major and minor scales
- handbells - begin chord structure and chord progressions
- theme and variations form
- soprano, alto, and tenor recorder trios added to ensemble repertoire
- midi composition/VT Midi Project online mentoring
- computer skills, file management
- 5-6 Chorus

Seventh and Eighth grades

Fall term:

- Instrumental Studio - 1 hour per week - Choice
- 7-8 Chorus 30 minutes during Studio + 40 minutes from Nov.-Feb.

Winter & Spring terms - Musical:

- 6 weeks of 2 afternoon rehearsals per week
- + 2 weeks intensive + 1 production week

Graduation

- Eighth graders will prepare a musical performance