



Content Area: Music

Grade Level: 8

Course Name: Chorus 8

Course Description:

Chorus 8 is an elective course at Shaker Middle School. The class meets every other day for the full year, during the school day. Band and Orchestra meet on the opposite day; students who play an instrument are encouraged to enroll in both Chorus and an instrumental group as the two complement each other. Band, Chorus, and Orchestra perform in two school concerts per year and may have other performance opportunities. In addition, students in these performing groups are the only ones eligible to audition for Jazz Ensemble, Select Band, Treble Makers (soprano/alto), Syncopella (tenor/bass), Select Chorus, and Scherzo (strings).

Skills	Description
Vocal Skills	Students who sing in the 8th grade Chorus develop skills in vocal health and production, note and rhythm reading, independence in vocal lines while singing in unison and in harmony, breath support, diction, and posture.
Ensemble Skills	Students enrolled in 8th grade Chorus will be in their fifth year of experience singing within a large ensemble. They will continue to develop skills in listening, entrances and releases, balance, blend, intonation, expression, pulse, phrasing, and independent playing. Their use of musical vocabulary will continue to grow. Students will be introduced to or further develop skills in sight reading music, deciphering notes as they relate to each other within the context of a Major scale as informed by Kodaly and Curwen methodologies

Skills	Description
	(i.e., Do-Re-Mi). A foundational understanding of compositional form and devices will be explored. Students will sing selections from a varied repertoire that may include languages other than English.

NYS Standard	Links
NYS Standards for the Arts, Traditional and Emerging Ensembles Strand	http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/curriculum-instruction/nys-music-at-a-glance-final-8.2.2017-high-res-v2.pdf