North Colonie Curriculum Overview



Content Area: Music	Grade Level: 5

Course Name: Orchestra 5

Course Description:

Orchestra 5 is an elective course in elementary school. The class meets once a week for the full year, during the school day. 5th grade Band, Chorus, and Orchestra perform in two school concerts per year and may have other performance opportunities in school.

Orchestra students will have a required small-group lesson once each week. Lessons rotate through the day so that no student should be excused from the same class more than once in each four weeks of school.

Skills	Description
String Instrument Skills	Students who play in the Orchestra program (violin, viola, cello, bass) will be introduced to and/or continue to develop skills in the areas of posture, left and right hand technique, bowing, plucking, scales and arpeggios, note and rhythm reading, extended positions, shifting, tuning, and intonation.
Ensemble Skills	Students enrolled in 5th grade Orchestra will be in their second year of experience playing within a large ensemble. They will continue to develop skills in listening, entrances and releases, balance, blend, intonation, expression, articulation, pulse, phrasing,

Skills	Description
	and independent playing. Their use of musical vocabulary will continue to grow. Different key signatures and tonalities and a foundational understanding of compositional form and devices will be explored.

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