



EST. 1931

Music Overview

Students in prekindergarten to grade 4 demonstrate their musical achievements through participation in seasonal concerts. Students in grades 5-8 enjoy additional opportunities to develop musical skills through small group and one-on-one instrumental instruction. They learn techniques related to rhythm, pitch, and instrumentation, and they develop skills in singing and song performance.

The music classroom is a place where every aspect of musical behavior is addressed: performing, creating, listening, and analyzing.

- **As performers**, students are singing songs, playing body percussion (clapping, snapping, stamping, etc.), chanting rhymes, dancing folk dances, playing singing games, and playing instruments.
- **As creators**, they are acting out songs and stories, creating original dances, improvising melodies to a given rhythm, and composing their own arrangements to songs.
- **As listeners**, they are playing music as part of an ensemble and hearing their part in the context of other musicians. They are also self-evaluating as they listen, enabling them to improve their performance.
- **As analyzers**, students are describing what they hear through words, pictures, movement, solfege syllables, hand signs, and music notation.

In addition to a variety of musical performances throughout the grade levels, students can be involved in several the following ensembles.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

FIFTH GRADE BAND

In addition to their weekly music class, fifth grade students choose to learn both violin and cello, glockenspiel and snare drum, or trumpet. The students perform in the spring concert.

WIND ENSEMBLE

Instrumental Ensemble is open to students in grades six to eight who usually have at least one year of experience playing an instrument. Students refine ensemble skills and perform in the spring concert.

JAZZ BAND

Musicians in grades 5-8 rehearse each week and perform for the school community.

CHAMBER STRINGS

BOYS' ENSEMBLE

CHORAL MUSIC

THIRD AND FOURTH GRADE CHORUS

Mandatory for third and fourth grade students, where they explore the singing voice in an ensemble setting and work on musical literacy skills. Students participate in winter and spring performances. Rehearsal is once a week during the school day.

FIFTH GRADE CHORUS

Students learn healthy vocal technique, ensemble singing, music literacy and performance of various musical styles; students participate in both winter and spring concerts; students rehearse twice a week during the school day.

SHOW CHOIR

Open to students in grades 5-8, students prepare scenes and choreographed musical selections from a major musical. Students participate in both winter and spring concerts, as well as the *Music in the Parks Festival*. Rehearsal is Wednesdays after school.

CHAMBER CHOIR

Open to students in grades 6-8, students learn and perform more challenging choral literature, reflecting diverse musical styles, and participate in both winter and spring concerts as well as in the *Music in the Parks Festival*. Rehearsal is twice a week during the school day.