

**SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT
ISD #833**

ORCHESTRA CURRICULUM

GRADES 4-12



SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY ORCHESTRA GOALS FOR GRADUATES

Graduates of the South Washington County Orchestra Program will:

- Recognize through aesthetic awareness that music is a part of all humanity.
- Prepare and present a musically proficient performance, alone or in an ensemble.
- Make knowledgeable and discriminating judgments about music.
- Enjoy and appreciate musical performances within their historical and cultural context.
- Acquire skills necessary for life-long music learning and application.

ABOUT OUR ORCHESTRA PROGRAM

In 2006, Superintendent Tom Nelson, and the School Board approved to begin an orchestra program beginning in the 14 elementary schools to students in grades 4-6.

Beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, orchestra was offered to students in grades 4 & 5, with each year following, adding a grade.

In the fall of 2009, orchestra was offered to all students in grades 4-8 in all four middle schools as well as in 14 elementary schools, including our Spanish Immersion, Nuevas Fronteras, housed at Crestview Elementary.

High school orchestra (grades 9-12) was offered starting in the fall of 2010 in all three high schools.

CORE CONCEPTUAL OBJECTIVES FOR GRADES 4-12

Core Conceptual Objectives in the Orchestra Curriculum remain constant for grades 4-12 while content knowledge and techniques spiral to provide continuous refinement of basic musical skills. Components of musical performance can be demonstrated at levels ranging from novice through professional. The scope and sequence chart illustrates the way in which knowledge and technical skills build within each Core Conceptual Objective. Teachers must select appropriate music literature that is matched to levels of proficiency as the vehicle for student growth in tone production, technical skills, ensemble performance, and practice skills. The level of difficulty is determined by the repertoire chosen at each grade level.

Core Conceptual Objectives:

I. Students will demonstrate technical playing and performance skills using:

- A. Playing Position (body, instrument, and bow)
- B. Finger Patterns and Scales
- C. Tone Production (Right-Hand Technique)
- D. Independent Practice Techniques

II. Students will demonstrate analysis in:

- A. Music Reading & Vocabulary Skills
- B. Ear Training
- C. Music Critique

III. Students will demonstrate knowledge of music history, theory, & appreciation.

IV. Students will make connections between music and other subject areas.