Grade 6 Instrumental Standards & Benchmarks

Standard 1 - Perform
Students will sing/play, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music

by the end of 6th Grade Instrumental Music
1. Play music using literature of progressive difficulty.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of proper breathing techniques and correct body and instrument position.
3. Play with technical accuracy.
4. Play an expanding repertoire of music representing diverse cultures, genres, and styles.
5. Perform rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic patterns accurately.
6. Respond to conducting cues with increased awareness of musical elements; i.e., balance, tempo, dynamics, and style.
7. Demonstrate improving ensemble skills.
8. Demonstrate evidence of consistent and appropriate practice habits.

Standard 2 - Perform
Students will read and write music notation.

by the end of 6th Grade Instrumental Music
1. Identify and read rhythmic patterns using whole, half, dotted half, quarter, dotted quarter, eighth, sixteenth notes and rests in varied meter and time signatures (2/4, 3/4, 4/4).
2. Identify, read, and notate melodic and rhythmic patterns using accepted practices.
3. Identify the notes on a staff using the appropriate clef.
4. Identify sharp signs, flat signs, natural signs, and key signatures up to 3 flats, and their functions in music being performed.
5. Identify and apply symbols and traditional terms that refer to dynamics, tempo, meter, and articulation.
6. Demonstrate ability to apply reading and notating skills to sight-reading.

Standard 3 – Create
Students will create music through performance.

by the end of 6th Grade Instrumental Music
1. Express and interpret the musical concepts of balance, blend, phrasing, intonation, and timing.
2. Imitate demonstrated rhythms, melodies, and harmonies.
3. Demonstrate ensemble awareness.

Standard 4 – Respond
Students will listen to, respond to, analyze, evaluate, and describe music.

by the end of 6th Grade Instrumental Music
1. Listen to and identify a variety of musical styles and genres.
2. Listen to, identify, and describe musical forms.
3. Identify musical elements and expressive qualities using appropriate musical vocabulary.
4. Describe and respond to specific music elements within a given work; e.g. crescendo.
5. Describe contrasts of timbre.
6. Evaluate group and individual (self and others) performances utilizing specific criteria.
7. Demonstrate appropriate audience behavior in various settings.

**Standard 5 – Perform/Respond**
Students will understand music in relation to history and a variety of cultures.

by the end of 6th Grade Instrumental Music
1. Perform in cultural events in an appropriate manner.
2. Describe how distinguishing characteristics of quality music are used in examples from various cultures.
3. Perform music in the context of its history and culture.
4. Listen to music in the context of its history and culture using resources (internet, CDs, etc).