Middle School Concert Band Standards & Benchmarks

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

*by the end of MS Concert Band (Intermediate Level)*
1. Play music using appropriate 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 MS Concert Band (Intermediate Level)*
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, 6/8).
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 4 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 MS Concert Band (Intermediate Level)*
1. Express and interpret more refined understanding the musical concepts of balance, blend, phrasing, intonation, and timing.
2. Imitate/improvise 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 MS Concert Band (Intermediate Level)*
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 MS Concert Band (Intermediate Level)
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).