

Getting In Tune With Music

I hope your year is off to a great start! I wanted to take this opportunity to share about the General Music classes at Tarwater. Music is an integral part of your child's education at Tarwater, as well as an EXCITING part of their day! Your student's experiences in music include lots of singing, moving/dancing, playing instruments and listening activities. It is through these kinds of activities that your child will learn about the "Elements of Music", such as beat, rhythm and pitch.



Throughout the year, students will continually be assessed in music. Students will be assessed in the areas of Participation/Behavior and Knowledge/Skills.

Participation/Behavior: First through Fourth Grade students will receive a Participation/Behavior grade for each music class, which will then appear on the student's semester report card. All students will be responsible for assessing their own participation and behavior at the end of each class. Each student will demonstrate their grade by showing a 3, 2 or 1 (see scale below).

All students will be assessed using the "Behaviors That Promote Learning":

- Actively listens and attends to task.
- Works independently.
- Works cooperatively.
- Makes good use of time.
- Practices self-discipline.
- Accepts responsibility.
- Completes class work as assigned.
- Completes homework as assigned.
- Produces quality work.
- Is courteous and respects rules, rights, property and others.

The following scale will be used for grading students in behavior/participation:

- 3 – The student demonstrates an outstanding effort and applies all of the "Behaviors That Promote Learning" in the music classroom.
- 2 – The student demonstrates some effort and applies some of the "Behavior That Promote Learning" in the music classroom.
- 1 – The student inconsistently demonstrates effort and has shown an infrequent use of the "Behaviors That Promote Learning" in the music classroom.

Content Knowledge: All students will also be assessed throughout the year in their music Knowledge/Skills. First through Fourth Grade students will receive a report card grade for Content Knowledge.

Content Knowledge grades will be given based on each student's mastery of music concepts covered throughout each semester in General Music class. Students will show their understanding of concepts through both written work and through performance activities. Students will also demonstrate their knowledge of skills through the use of quizzes and unit tests.

The following scale will be used for grading students in content knowledge:

- 80%-100% - The student "Meets the Standard" for concepts addressed in music class.
- 70%-79% - The student is "Progressing" in the area of general music.
- 69% and below – The student is demonstrating an "Area of Concern" in music class.

Music Website:

You can access Mrs. Chappell's website through the *Staff* area on Tarwater's website, or by going directly to <https://www.cusd80.com/site/Default.aspx?PageID=117154> . The website includes the class music schedule and an up to date weekly schedule. Quarterly General Music Reports will also be available on the web, as well as other updates that pertain to the music classes. Please feel free to check this website for updates throughout the year.

I hope that your child has a very successful school year and I look forward to seeing your child grow in his or her music education. But most of all, I look forward to sharing in the fun of music class with your child. If you ever have any questions or concerns about your child's progress in music, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail. Have a wonderful school year!

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