

CREEKLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

Instrumental Music

Department

Objectives of Curriculum:

Concepts being taught are done so with students' active participation. Basically, the "hands on" activities are the most realistic approach in instrumental music.

A great deal of kinesthetic learning is involved. Much effort is directed toward the building of good basic habits: breath support, embouchure, articulation, and rhythmic skills. Also incorporated into the structure of classes are techniques of good tone production, intonation, and musical interpretation.

Teaching technical aspects of the instrument and developing the players' technical abilities on the instrument are taught through the use of technique books. The skills in the books are for development of those abilities, offering a variety of basic elements through key signatures, rhythms, and articulations.

Incorporated into the course of study is music for concert performance. Good band and orchestra music incorporates various aspects of what students have been presented in the books. It also acts as reinforcement in the skills being taught, as well as motivating student's individual practice. Scale passages and exercises, rhythmic articulations, exercises in various key signatures and meters, and melodious etudes will all be a part of the regular curriculum throughout the year.

The sixth grade ensembles are performing organizations as well as training groups. Though these performances are usually scheduled during out of school times, students may work both individually through private practice, and collectively in ensemble rehearsals. Performances are positive experiences for students and reinforce their attitude toward their groups as well as themselves.

It is important that each student participate in extra rehearsals and performances to develop a sense of pride in their efforts. Extra hours, special rehearsals, and weekend or evening performances can be learning experiences in many ways. You, as parents, can help a great deal with your support and encouragement.

CMS Instrumental Specialists:

Jacob Sevier
Robin Schaps