

General Course Information

Course Name: Middle School Beginning String Orchestra	
Department: Music/Strings	Grade Level(s): 6-8
Duration/Credits: 1 year/1 Credit	Prerequisites: None
BOE Approval Date: February 2023	Course Code: M7630
Course Description:	
<p>Middle School Beginning String Orchestra is for students in sixth through eighth grade who wish to learn to play a traditional string instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass). No previous experience is necessary. This class addresses the gradual development of technical skills and good care of the string instrument, which eventually leads to the performance of simple string orchestra literature.</p>	
Course Rationale:	
<p>The middle school strings program fosters the development of playing and listening skills of all students through active, hands-on participation. Playing in a strings class encourages growth in personal discipline, persistence, cooperation, concentration and communication. An emphasis on how to create quality in both sound and performance leads to personal enjoyment and success as music is a global language.</p>	
Course Objectives:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The student will demonstrate proper playing posture and position.• The student will perform rhythms ranging from basic to more complex.• The student will develop bowing technique to produce appropriate dynamics, expressive markings, and tone.• The student will develop basic vibrato technique.• The student will learn how to read basic to more complex music notation and expressive markings.• The student will develop and discern intonation. The student will learn how to play with alternative fingerings (shifting).• The student will demonstrate adequate skills of performing in an ensemble.• The student will develop effective practice habits.• The student will perform for a variety of audiences.	
Standards Alignment:	
https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/curr-mls-standards-fa-music-sboe-2019.pdf	