Lehighton Area School District
Curriculum Framework

Course Title:	General Music
Content Area:	Music
Grade Level(s):	Third Grade
Course Overview:	Third Grade General Music focuses on advancing students from basic recognition to true music literacy, emphasizing staff reading and note name identification. The curriculum's big ideas include melody, rhythm, form, dynamics, tempo, meter, timbre, and the staff. A major achievement is identifying the letter names of the treble clef staff and understanding its importance. Rhythmic learning expands to include more complex patterns like triplets and sixteenth notes. A strong emphasis is placed on harmony, with students identifying and describing different ways to produce it. They learn to perform music in textures such as a round, an ostinato, and partner songs. Additionally, the curriculum features a detailed study of the four families of the orchestra and their members, along with continued appreciation for composers like Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven. Performance skills are maintained through singing, movement, and the playing of rhythm and Orff instruments.
PA Core Standards:	Academic Standards for the Arts and Humanities
Key Course Text and Materials:	Music First
Key Assessments/Projects:	Assessments in third grade use a variety of methods, including written quizzes and comprehensive performance-based evaluations. Students are evaluated on demonstrating rhythmic reading skills, playing various rhythmic patterns, and performing group and individual compositions. Performance assessments include singing individually, in a round and partner songs. Written assessments are given in staff notation, the orchestra, and music vocabulary.

Big Idea/Unit: Steady beat, refrain **Pacing:** August				
Standards	**Objective/Skill**	**Vocabulary**	**Additional Resources**	**Assessment/Project**
9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4	Sing in tune; identify folk songs; play and move to steady beat; identify two-part form; identify rests and repeat signs; demonstrate rhythmic reading skills.	Steady Beat, Verse, Refrain, Coda	Music Studio Website, McGraw-Hill, CDs, Textbooks, Computer, Projector	Teacher observation, student performance, oral responses

Big Idea/Unit: Notes and Tempo **Pacing:** September				
Standards	**Objective/Skill**	**Vocabulary**	**Additional Resources**	**Assessment/Project**
9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4	Read treble clef note names; identify tempo, dynamics, meter, and AB form; perform rhythms; learn National Anthem background.	Quarter Note, Half Note, Eighth Notes, Dynamics, Tempo, Form	Textbooks, Composer resources, Worksheets, Computer, Projector	Staff worksheets, quizzes, performance assessments

Big Idea/Unit: Spiritual, Harmony, Major vs Minor **Pacing:** October				
Standards	**Objective/Skill**	**Vocabulary**	**Additional Resources**	**Assessment/Project**
9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4	Identify spirituals, ABA form, harmony, rounds, major/minor, meter, and treble staff notes.	Spiritual, Harmony, Round, Major, Minor, Staff	Listening maps, recordings, videos	Teacher observation, round performance, vocabulary quiz

Big Idea/Unit: Hymn, Sacred, Secular **Pacing:** November				
Standards	**Objective/Skill**	**Vocabulary**	**Additional Resources**	**Assessment/Project**
9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4	Identify melody vs. beat rhythms, dotted rhythms, hymns, sacred and secular music.	Melody, Hymn, Sacred, Secular	Composer resources, recordings	Performance tasks, vocabulary quiz

Big Idea/Unit: Sections; Lullaby, Ritardando **Pacing:** December				
Standards	**Objective/Skill**	**Vocabulary**	**Additional Resources**	**Assessment/Project**
9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4	Study ballet, voice parts, lullabies, ritardando, concert etiquette.	Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, Ballet, Lullaby, Ritardando	The Nutcracker resources, videos	Concert performance and observation

Big Idea/Unit: Types of Instruments **Pacing:** January				
Standards	**Objective/Skill**	**Vocabulary**	**Additional Resources**	**Assessment/Project**
9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4	Identify orchestra families, solo/chorus, rondo form, spirituals, meter.	String, Woodwind, Brass, Percussion, Solo, Chorus, Rondo	Orchestra videos, worksheets	Instrument identification assessments

Big Idea/Unit: Scale and Ostinato **Pacing:** February				
Standards	**Objective/Skill**	**Vocabulary**	**Additional Resources**	**Assessment/Project**
9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4	Identify scales, harmony, rounds, ostinatos, and meter changes.	Scale, Harmony, Round, Ostinato, Meter	Worksheets, flash cards, recordings	Orchestra test and performance tasks

Big Idea/Unit: Partner Songs and Countermelodies **Pacing:** March				
Standards	**Objective/Skill**	**Vocabulary**	**Additional Resources**	**Assessment/Project**
9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4	Identify partner songs, countermelodies, treble clef notation, D.C./D.S. markings.	Partner Song, Countermelody, Treble Clef, Staff	Worksheets, composer resources	Round and harmony performance assessments

Big Idea/Unit: Melody and Harmony **Pacing:** April				
Standards	**Objective/Skill**	**Vocabulary**	**Additional Resources**	**Assessment/Project**
9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4	Describe melodic movement, harmony, tone color, and form.	Melody, Harmony, Tone Color, Form	Composer resources, recordings	Teacher observation and performance assessments

Big Idea/Unit: Musical Theatre **Pacing:** May/June				
Standards	**Objective/Skill**	**Vocabulary**	**Additional Resources**	**Assessment/Project**
9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4	Review yearly concepts, perform rhythms, identify countermelodies and musicals.	Melody, Form, Musical Theatre	Musical videos, recordings, textbooks	Instrument identification worksheet and performance tasks