

K-5 Music

Dr. Erin Sukhia

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Hello, I'm Erin Sukhia and I am the K-8 Music Teacher at TCS. I have a bachelor's degree in music education and violin performance and master's and doctorate degrees in violin performance. I am also a certified Orff Level 1 and Suzuki Violin Book 1-3 music instructor. This is my sixth year teaching at Trinity.

Objectives

In elementary music, students will build upon skills and knowledge they have already learned and will be introduced to new composers, ideas, and techniques. Goals in music reflect the following **3 National Core Music Standards** - to **Create**, to **Perform**, and to **Respond** to Music:

- ✓ Students need to have experiences in **creating** to be successful musicians and to be successful 21st century citizens. It is necessary for young people to develop the skills to plan, execute, evaluate, as well as present their work understandably and effectively. Through the process of creating music, students learn the fundamentals for creating and producing whatever they may imagine.
- ✓ Students need to **perform** – as singers, as instrumentalists, and in their lives and future careers. Performance not only includes the final showcase, but it requires skills in analysis and interpretation. Students experience the journey from practice to performance, developing skills and characteristics like strategic planning and dedication to a goal.
- ✓ Students need to **respond** to music, as well as to their culture, their community, and their colleagues. Critical thinking, analyzing, and effective judgment are all skills a student can gain through productive responsiveness. How to process and respond to one's thoughts and feelings is also essential to becoming a well-rounded person.

Our Catholic faith is a fundamental part of every music class.

- ✓ Class always begins with prayer, through the singing of the Our Father or praying of the Musician's Prayer.
- ✓ Students will rehearse mass responses, church hymns, and praise and worship songs to prepare for participation in weekly Catholic masses.
- ✓ As Christians, we are meant to love God and love our neighbors. This basic tenant informs and helps guide every student and teacher interaction and discipline policy.

Curriculum/Topics

Students will learn fundamental musical skills and concepts and explore the wide repertoire of classical composers. They will **create**, **respond**, and **perform** music at every level of instruction. In addition, the 3rd-4th quarters will focus on a primary instrument.

K-1: Orff/Percussion Instruments

2: Basic Piano Exploration

3: Recorder

4: Drumming

5: Piano/Ukulele

Assignments

Students will earn a grade, up to 10 points, every time they come to music based on their effort and participation. They will also earn up to 10 points for monthly in-class assessments throughout the year based on their skills and mastery of musical concepts studied in class. Starting in the spring, 5th grade students will complete weekly homework reflections, in which they may earn up to 10 points.

Make-up Assignments and Late Work

If students miss a music class, they will get caught back up the next time they come to music.

Academic Grading Scale

Powerschool grades will follow the following grading scale:

A: 90-100%

B: 80-89%

C: 70-79%

D: 60-69%

F: Below 60%

Behavior Management Plan

Students are expected to maintain appropriate behavior in the classroom, and music class expectations are clearly communicated and reinforced throughout the year. Inappropriate behavior may result in lower effort/participation grades due to the student not focusing on their work. If behavior interferes with the learning environment for other students, parent contact will be made. Students may earn a 3 or 4 in conduct for repeated inappropriate behavior after parent contact has been made, and students may additionally earn SBNs or detentions for serious offenses.

Conduct Grading Scale

Conduct Grade Guidelines (see Parent-Student Handbook)

Trinity Catholic School is committed to providing a high quality Catholic education for all students in an atmosphere conducive to learning and teaching. Grounded in the teachings of the Gospels, we demonstrate our faith through our behavior and we take responsibility for our actions and their consequences. We maintain high expectations with respect to student effort, positive growth, personal responsibility, and respect.

Conduct grades are a separate evaluation from academic performance. They reflect a student's overall behavior and development as a citizen within the classroom environment. Consistent positive behavior contributes significantly to a strong learning environment for everyone. By striving to meet the character traits of "KNIGHTS," students can earn high conduct grades in each subject, while fostering a positive and respectful classroom community.

I show... **K**indness
 I am... **N**urturing
 I act with... **I**ntegrity
 I show... **G**rit
 I have... **H**ope
 I show... **T**olerance
 I show... **S**elf-Discipline

Teachers base conduct grades on a student's consistent behavior throughout the quarter, not just isolated incidents. They look for the following:

Conduct Grade-Citizenship in the Classroom	
Above Average Knight Behavior 1	• Is a positive role model, who leads quietly or outwardly • Shows kindness and care for others • Is always respectful of teachers and fellow students • Works to improve the classroom atmosphere • Takes an active part in class discussions, groups, etc. • Is a self-starter and seeks to help others • Completes all work to the best of their ability • Demonstrates personal and academic integrity • Respect classroom resources/tools • Arrives on time and prepared to learn
Satisfactory Knight Behavior 2	• Contributes positively to class • Shows respect for others • Comes to class prepared and on time • Demonstrates personal and academic integrity • Listens and talks when appropriate • Does what is expected

	• Willing to help others • Respect classroom resources/tools
Needs Improvement Knight Behavior 3	• Needs frequent reminders by the teacher to stay on task and/or behave appropriately • Needs improvement in showing respect and kindness to classmates/teacher • Sometimes comes to class unprepared and/or does not complete work • Distracts other students' learning • Occasionally displays a negative or uncooperative attitude • Irresponsible with classroom resources/tools
Unsatisfactory Knight Behavior 4	• Is a disruptive influence on the class, negatively impacting the learning environment • Shows a lack of respect for teacher/fellow students • Is disrespectful or unkind to others, in actions or words • Regularly comes to class unprepared and puts forth little effort • Demonstrates a lack of personal and academic integrity • Harms classroom resources/tools

In the event a student receives a 3 or 4 in Conduct and the behavior does not improve, a Parent/Teacher Conference may be scheduled, a Behavior Plan will be put in place, and the student may lose privileges. In the event that the behaviors don't improve over time, it may be decided that Trinity is not the best fit for that student.

Supplies

Music supplies will be stored in the music room and shared among classes. Students do not need to bring their own supplies.

AI Policy

Artificial intelligence can be used as a tool for creating music, but is not necessary and its use is not needed in this music class. AI should never be used as a substitute for effort to complete work independently.

Misuse of AI will be considered cheating. You should never ask AI to solve a question for you and submit the work as your own. Students will find that using AI for these purposes will leave them vastly underprepared for in class assessments. Please refer to the academic honesty policy for questions.

Communication

Google Classroom

Google Classroom is a collaboration tool for teachers and students. Teachers create an online classroom, invite students to the class then create and distribute assignments. Within the Google Classroom students and teachers can have conversations about the assignments and teachers can track the student's progress. This is an organizational tool for the students to see all assignments and to-do lists in one place. Parents are able to receive communication as well to see what the students are working on.

E-mail

The most effective method of communication between teacher and parents is e-mail. Parents should expect to receive a reply from the teacher within 24 hours. Students may confer directly with the teacher to resolve any questions or concerns. Students may use their school-issued email account to communicate, if there is not an opportunity in class.

PowerSchool

Parents and students are responsible for checking PowerSchool on a regular basis to monitor progress. Please bring concerns to the teacher's attention as soon as they appear. Parents and teachers will work together to promote student progress. Questions regarding access to PowerSchool should be directed to the front office.