

Mission, Vision, Philosophy, & Objectives

WCSD Orchestra MISSION – WHY WE EXIST

Provide all students the essential experience of string playing within an artistically expressive community.

WCSD Orchestra VISION – WHAT WE ASPIRE TO BE

Lifelong musicianship for all.

General Philosophy:

Music is an integral part of the learning process. Every student should have the opportunity to acquire meaningful music skills. These skills will enhance the quality of life during their school years and beyond. Music can help the individual student develop aesthetic awareness, sensitivity, problem-solving and critical thinking skills while providing a means for creativity and self-expression. The student participating in a group activity learns to develop self-control and consideration for others while obtaining the opportunity for visible achievement in the school and community. Music allows students to develop an understanding of the history and culture of our country and the world. Music education contributes and reinforces the broad-based, general educational program that includes objective, subjective, symbolic and concrete aspects of the learning process.

Three Philosophies of Music Education*

- **Utilitarian Philosophy**
 - Music serves a function. It is a tool we can use to achieve a purpose.
 - Music serves a non-musical outcome.
- **Aesthetic Philosophy**
 - Music's value is inside the music itself
 - Feelings-based experiences and understandings of beauty, emotion, and expression that are essential to humanity
 - High-quality musical products
- **Praxial Philosophy**
 - Music is the actualization of a person's belief systems and motivations
 - Music is both a process and a product
 - Music lives in a cultural and social context

*Boler, Victoria. "Three Philosophies of Music Education." Victoria Boler, July 13, 2020,
<https://www.victoriaboler.com/blog/three-philosophies-of-music-education>. Accessed August 17, 2024.

General Instructional Objectives

- **Physical** - The program will provide activities that promote the development of both fine and gross motor skills and to help the student understand and accept physical changes as part of their development.
- **Social** - The program will provide a climate for the acceptance and understanding of the individual through participation in a group situation and to give students the opportunity to develop responsible behavior while representing the school and community.
- **Emotional** - The program will provide students with a vehicle of self-expression through music and to provide an atmosphere in which students can develop an awareness of their reactions and sensitivity to the arts.
- **Intellectual** - The program will provide an atmosphere that encourages creative exploration and study of the historical and cultural relationships that exist between music and other subject matters and that challenges students to learn the cognitive reading and music theory skills necessary for music literacy.
- **Outcome Skills** - The program will provide classroom and performance experiences that demonstrates student achievement in curricular outcomes and to provide the educational opportunities necessary to prepare the student for successful participation in music classes and activities beyond the classroom.