

# Bristol Public Schools Office of Teaching & Learning

Department	Music
Department Philosophy	The visual and performing arts are critical in the development of every child. In a diverse and ever changing society, the visual and performing arts are integral in the consistency, appreciation, and creativity of tomorrow's leaders. The fine arts are a universal language, allowing students to learn unique skills and means of expression that contributes back to our society. We believe visual and performing arts create lifelong learners harnessed with empathy and skills necessary to understand our past, present and future world.
Course	A Cappella
Course Description for Program of Studies	This is a semester based course where students will learn how to sing in a small group. Students will learn vocal techniques used in contemporary college A Cappella style (Glee, Pitch Perfect, or Pentatonix). This will include learning vocal percussion (beatboxing), microphone technique, arranging and writing. Student's will also have the opportunity to sing solos and enhance their ability to connect with their peers and audience.
Grade Level	9-12
Pre-requisites	None
Credit (if applicable)	.5

District Learning Expectations and Standards	Posture / Breath	Articulation	Phrasing	Pitch / Rhythm	Key Signature	Time Signature	Road Map Symbols	Solfege	Conducting Gestures	Dynamics	Diction	Vowel Color / Intonation	Meaning / Interpretation	Balance	Blending	Vocal Percussion	Arranging	Microphone Technique
Creating																		
MU:Cr1.1 Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.																		
MU:Cr2.1 Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.																	Ρ	
MU:Cr3.1 Refine and complete artistic work.																	Ρ	
Performing	Performing																	
MU:Pr4.1 Select, analyze and interpret artistic work for presentation.				Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ						Ρ	Р			Р
MU:Pr5.1 Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation.																		

MU:Pr6.1 Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ			Ρ	Ρ		Ρ	S		Ρ		
Responding														
MU:Re7.1 Perceive and analyze artistic work.							S							
MU:Re8.1 Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.			S			S		Ρ						
MU:Re9.1 Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.										Ρ			Ρ	
Connecting														
MU:Cn10.0 Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.														
MU:Cn11.1 Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding.								S						

#### **ESSENTIAL QUESTION OF STANDARDS**

- When is a performance judged ready to present? How do context and the manner in which the musical work is presented influence audience response?
- How do we discern the musical creators' and performers' expressive intent?
- How does understanding the structure and context of musical works inform performance?
- How do musicians make creative decisions?
- How do we judge the quality of musical work(s) and performance(s)?
- How does understanding the structure and context of the music influence a response?
- How do the other arts, other disciplines, contexts and daily life inform creating, performing, and responding to music?
- When is a performance judged ready to present? How do context and the manner in which the musical work is presented influence audience response?

#### ENDURING UNDERSTANDING OF STANDARDS

- Musicians judge performance based on criteria that vary across time, place, and cultures. The context and how a work is presented influence the audience response.
- Through their use of elements and structures of music, creators and performers provide clues to their expressive intent.
- Analyzing creators' context and how they manipulate elements of music provides insight into their intent and informs performance.
- Musicians' creative choices are influenced by their expertise, context, and expressive intent.
- The personal evaluation of musical works and performances is informed by analysis, interpretation, and established criteria.
- Response to music is informed by analyzing context (social, cultural, and historical) and how creators and performers manipulate the elements of music.
- Understanding connections to varied contexts and daily life enhances musicians' creating, performing, and responding.
- Musicians judge performance based on criteria that vary across time, place, and cultures. The context and how a work is presented influence the audience response.

# **UNIT 1:Posture and Breath Support**

## Vocal Awareness/Technique

Standard			Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary		
MU:Pr6.1. E.HSI (Proficient)	<ul> <li>a. Demonstrate attention to technical accuracy and expressive qualities in prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire of music representing diverse cultures, styles, and genres.</li> <li>b. Demonstrate an understanding of expressive intent by</li> </ul>	x	Type of Standard         Content Knowledge         Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)         Physical Skill         Product Development         Learning Behavior	Concepts and Disciplinary-specific vocabulary         Thorax (intercostal muscles), diaphragm         COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS         All breathing is from the diaphragm         RESOURCES         ENT diagram, thorax diagram		
	of expressive intent by connecting with an audience through prepared and improvised performances.					

## LEARNING TARGETS

- Stand or sit using proper posture.
- Identify muscle groups used in singing.
- Prepare my body for the physical act of singing.

# **UNIT 2: Articulation**

## Vocal Awareness/Technique

Standard			Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary		
MU:Pr6.1. E.HSI	a. Demonstrate attention to technical accuracy and		Content Knowledge	Legato, staccato, accent		
(Proficient)	expressive qualities in prepared and improvised performances of		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	PRIOR KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO MASTER STANDARDS FOR THIS UNIT		
	a varied repertoire of music x epresenting diverse cultures,		Physical Skill	Should have previous exposure		
	styles, and genres.		Product Development			
	b. Demonstrate an understanding of expressive intent by connecting with an audience through prepared and improvised performances.		Learning Behavior			

## LEARNING TARGETS

- Identify staccato, accent, legato within my music.
- Perform staccato, accent, legato.
- Explain and understand why staccato, accent, and legato are used within selected repertoire

	UNIT 3: Phrasing									
	Vocal Awareness/Technique									
Standard			Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary						
MU:Pr6.1.E.	a. Demonstrate mastery of the		Content Knowledge	Phrasing						
HSII (Accomplish ed)	technical demands and an understanding of expressive qualities of the music in prepared		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS						
,	and improvised performances of a varied repertoire representing diverse cultures, styles, genres, and historical periods.	and improvised performances of a		Physical Skill	All notes are monodynamic					
			Product Development							
			Learning Behavior							
	b. Demonstrate an understanding of intent as a means for connecting with an audience through prepared and improvised performances.									
MU:Re8.1.E	Explain and support interpretations	х	Content Knowledge							
.HSI (Proficient)	of the expressive intent and meaning of musical works, citing as		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)							
	evidence the treatment of the elements of music, contexts, (when appropriate) the setting of the text, and personal research.		Physical Skill							
			Product Development							
			Learning Behavior							

- Recognize the natural rise and fall of a vocal line.
- Find the word that represents the apex (peak) of the phrase.
- Sing a vocal line with direction and meaning.

	UNIT 4: Vocal Percussion											
	Vocal Awareness/Technique											
Standard			Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary								
MU:Pr6. 1.E.HSIII	a. Demonstrate an understanding and mastery of the technical demands and expressive qualities of the music through prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire representing diverse cultures, styles, genres, and historical periods in multiple types of ensembles.		Content Knowledge	Vocal Percussion								
(Advance d)			Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS								
u)		х	Physical Skill Product Development	That it is hard or impossible to do.								
			Learning Behavior									

- Create drum sound vocally.
- Understand basic rhythms.

# UNIT 5: Pitch & Rhythm

	Vocal Awareness/Technique									
Standard			Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary						
MU:Pr4.2. E.HSI (Proficient)	a. Demonstrate, using music reading skills where appropriate, how compositional devices	х	Content Knowledge	<ul> <li>Treble and bass clef</li> <li>16th notes, whole notes, dotted notes</li> </ul>						
	employed and theoretical and structural aspects of musical		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS						
	works impact and inform prepared or improvised	х	Physical Skill	What standard notation is (i.e. the staff).						
	performances.		Product Development	PRIOR KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO MASTER STANDARDS FOR THIS UNIT						
			Learning Behavior	Quarter and eighth notes						

## LEARNING TARGET

- Read standards notes and perform them. (notes on the treble and bass clef)
- Identify written notes; their pitch and duration. (16th notes to whole notes, and dotted notes)
- Sing correct pitch and duration as indicated by the music.

	UNIT 6: Key Signatures									
	Vocal Awareness/Technique									
Standard			Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary						
MU:Pr4.2.	reading skills where appropriate,	х	Content Knowledge	solfège, key signature, and how sharps and flats affect the "do"						
E.HSI (Proficient)		how compositional devices employed and theoretical and		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS					
			x	Physical Skill	That "do" is fixed					
			Product Development	PRIOR KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO MASTER STANDARDS FOR THIS UNIT						
			Learning Behavior	Basic solfège scale						

- Find and sing the 'do' note of C in written music.
- Find and sing the 'do' note of G in written music.
- Find and sing the 'do' note of F in written music.
- Find and sing the 'do' note of D in written music.
- Find and sing the 'do' note of Bb in written music.
- Find and sing the 'do' note of A in written music.
- Find and sing the 'do' note of Eb in written music.

	UNIT 7:Time Signatures Vocal Awareness/Technique									
Standard			Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary						
MU:Pr4.2.	reading skills where appropriate,	х	Content Knowledge	Compound and simple meter						
E.HSI (Proficient)		how compositional devices employed and theoretical and			Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS				
			х	Physical Skill	That 6/8 and 3/4 are the same meter					
			Product Development	PRIOR KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO MASTER STANDARDS FOR THIS UNIT						
		performances.		Learning Behavior	Ability to keep a steady beat					

- Identify the difference between compound and simple meters. (2/4, 2/2, 3/4, 3/8, 4/4, 6/8, 6/4, 9/8, 12/8)
- Perform simple and compound meters and know where each of the beats are.
- Associate beats with conductor's gesture.

# **UNIT 8: Road Map Symbols**

## Vocal Awareness/Technique

Standard			Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary					
MU:Pr4.2. E.HSI	a. Demonstrate, using music reading skills where appropriate,	х	Content Knowledge	• repeat signs, CODA, DS, and first/second endings					
(Proficient)	how compositional devices employed and theoretical and		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS					
	structural aspects of musical works impact and inform prepared or improvised performances.	х	Physical Skill	That you do not need to go back to the beginning when there					
			Product Development	is a repeat Read/sing through first and second ending (forgetting to repeat					
			Learning Behavior	and jump to 2nd ending)					

## LEARNING TARGETS

- Identify repeat signs, CODA, DS, and first/second endings
- Follow the score returning to the correct measure with the road map symbols.

# **UNIT 9: Solfège**

# Vocal Awareness/Technique

Standard	Standard		Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary		
MU:Pr4.2.	a. Demonstrate, using music	х	Content Knowledge	solfège		
E.HSI (Proficient)	reading skills where appropriate, how compositional devices employed and theoretical and		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	PRIOR KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO MASTER STANDARDS FOR THIS UNIT		
	structural aspects of musical works impact and inform prepared or improvised	x	Physical Skill	Exposure to solfège		
			Product Development			
	performances.		Learning Behavior			

## LEARNING TARGETS

- Sing a scale using solfège syllables.
- Jump to any scale degree (interval) from do.
- Identify 'do' in the key signature of the musical passage.
- Sing musical passages with solfège syllables.

# **UNIT 10: Conducting Gestures**

	Vocal Awareness/Technique						
Standard		Type of Standard		Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary			
MU:Pr6.1. E.HSI (Proficient)	E.HSI technical accuracy and		Content Knowledge Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	Conducting, upbeat and downbeat			
		x	Physical Skill	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS			
			Product Development	Forgetting to look at the conductor to know when and how to			
			Learning Behavior	sing/articulate			
MU:Re8.1.	Explain and support	х	Content Knowledge				
E.HSI (Proficient)	interpretations of the expressive intent and meaning of musical		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)				
	works, citing as evidence the treatment of the elements of		Physical Skill				
	music, contexts, (when		Product Development				
	appropriate) the setting of the text, and personal research.		Learning Behavior				

# LEARNING TARGETS

- Start and end music phrases together with others.
- Follow directions/gestures for appropriate synchronization.
- Associate beats with conductor's gesture.
- Prepare and perform for upbeats and downbeats

# UNIT 11: Arranging

Standard		Type of Standard		Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary	
MU:Cr2.1.C .HSII (Accomplish	a. Assemble and organize multiple sounds or musical ideas to create initial expressive statements of selected sonic		Content Knowledge	Arranging is a combination of learned musical skills in order to produce an original arrangement	
ed)	events, memories, images, concepts, texts, or storylines.		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS	
			Physical Skill	It is easy to arrange music	
		x	Product Development	PRIOR KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO MASTER STANDARDS FOR THIS UNIT	
			Learning Behavior	Foundational music reading and theory skills	
MU:Cr3.1.C	teacher-provided or		Content Knowledge		
.HSII (Accomplish ed)		personally-developed criteria to assess		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	
cu)			Physical Skill		
		х	Product Development		
			Learning Behavior		
MU:Re9.1.C	Describe the effectiveness of the		Content Knowledge		
.HSI (Proficient)	technical and expressive aspects of selected music and performances, demonstrating understanding of	x	Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)		
	fundamentals of music theory.		Physical Skill		
	Describe the way(s) in which critiquing		Product Development		
	others' work and receiving feedback from others can be applied in the personal creative process.		Learning Behavior		

- Arrange songs for various ensemble groups.
- Analyze scores to understand voice leading, harmonization and arranging norms.

# **UNIT 12: Dynamics**

# Vocal Awareness/Technique

Standard	Standard		Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary	
MU:Re7.2.E .HSI	passages and understanding the way			Content Knowledge	Dynamics ranging from pp-ff and sfz
(Proficient)	the elements of music are manipulated inform the response to music.	x	Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS	
			Physical Skill	Not vary the dynamics enough	
			Product Development	PRIOR KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO MASTER STANDARDS FOR THIS UNIT	
			Learning Behavior	Ability to sing at different volumes	
MU:Pr6.1.E.	a. Demonstrate attention to		Content Knowledge		
HSI (Proficient)	technical accuracy and expressive qualities in prepared and	• •		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	
	varied repertoire of music	х	Physical Skill		
	representing diverse cultures, styles, and genres.		Product Development		
	b. Demonstrate an understanding of expressive intent by connecting with an audience through prepared and improvised performances.		Learning Behavior		

#### LEARNING TARGETS

I CAN

• Identify and perform ff in written music.

- Identify and perform f in written music.
- Identify and perform mf in written music.
- Identify and perform mp in written music.
- Identify and perform p in written music.
- Identify and perform pp in written music.
- Identify and perform sfz in written music.

	UNIT 13: Diction							
			Vocal Awareness/Technic	lne				
Standard			Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary				
MU:Re8.1. E.HSI	Explain and support interpretations of the expressive	х	Content Knowledge	Diction				
(Proficient)	icient) intent and meaning of musical works, citing as evidence the		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS				
	treatment of the elements of music, contexts, (when		Physical Skill	Singing everything in an American accent				
	appropriate) the setting of the		Product Development					
	text, and personal research.		Learning Behavior					
MU:Cn11.0	Demonstrate understanding of		Content Knowledge					
.E.HSII (Accomplis	<ul><li>relationships between music and</li><li>the other arts, other disciplines,</li></ul>		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)					
hed)	varied contexts, and daily life.		Physical Skill					
			Product Development					
			Learning Behavior					

- Perform the correct vowels and consonants.
- Make myself understandable to others.

	UNIT 14: Vowel Color & Intonation						
	Vocal Awareness/Technique						
Standard			Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary			
MU:Pr6.1. E.HSI	ISI technical accuracy and		Content Knowledge	Larynx, pharynx, soft palette placement, mask, resonance			
(Proficient)		and improvised performances of		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS		
		x	Physical Skill	That pop stars sing correctly			
			Product Development	PRIOR KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO MASTER STANDARDS FOR THIS UNIT			
			Learning Behavior	Breathing technique			

- Shape my vocal tract appropriately.
- Identify muscles and spaces that affect the vowel color.
- Adjust tongue position for each of the italian singing vowels (ah, eh, ee, oh, oo)
- Adjust soft palette position for each of the italian singing vowels (ah, eh, ee, oh, oo)
- Place vowel sounds into the mask

	UNIT 15: Meaning & Interpretation							
			Vocal Awareness/Technic	que				
Standard			Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary				
MU:Pr6.1.E. HSII	a. Demonstrate mastery of the technical demands and an understanding of		Content Knowledge	N/A				
d)	<ul> <li>ccomplishe expressive qualities of the music in prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire representing diverse cultures, styles, genres, and historical periods.</li> <li>b. Demonstrate an understanding of intent as a means for connecting with an audience through prepared and improvised performances.</li> </ul>		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS				
		х	Physical Skill	Bringing in prior knowledge of a song's meaning				
		-		Product Development				
			Learning Behavior					
MU:Re9.1.E.	Evaluate works and performances based		Content Knowledge					
HSI (Proficient)	on personally- or collaboratively-developed criteria, including analysis of the structure and context.	х	Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)					
			Physical Skill					
			Product Development					
			Learning Behavior					

- Understand the meaning of the text.
- Understand the context of the text.
- Sing so others can understand the text.
- Convey the meaning of the song using expression and body language.

# **UNIT 16: Ballance**

# Vocal Awareness/Technique

Standard	Standard		Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary
MU:Pr4.1. E.HSII	a. Develop and apply criteria to select a varied repertoire to	x	Content Knowledge	Ballance
(Accomplis hed)	study and perform based on an understanding of theoretical and structural characteristics and expressive challenges in the music, the technical skill of the individual or ensemble, and the purpose and context of the performance.		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS
		х	Physical Skill	I can sing the right notes and it's right - but it needs to blend
			Product Development	within the group
			Learning Behavior	

## LEARNING TARGETS

- Listen to the overall volume levels of each part.
- Adjust my personal volume level to match others.

# UNIT 17: Blend

# Vocal Awareness/Technique

Standard	Standard		Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary
MU:Pr4.1. E.HSII	a. Develop and apply criteria to select a varied repertoire to	x	Content Knowledge	Vowel color and intonation
(Accomplis hed)	study and perform based on an understanding of theoretical and structural characteristics and expressive challenges in the music, the technical skill of the individual or ensemble, and the purpose and context of the performance.		Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS
		х	Physical Skill	"Ah" sound is the same
			Product Development	
			Learning Behavior	

#### LEARNING TARGETS

- Listen to vowel colors of others.
- Match vowel colors to others.

# **UNIT 18: Microphone Technique**

## Vocal Awareness/Technique

Standard	Standard		Type of Standard	Concepts and Disciplinary-Specific Vocabulary
MU:Pr4. 3.T.HSI	Demonstrate how understanding the context, expressive challenges, and use of digital tools in a varied repertoire of music influence prepared or improvised performances.	x	Content Knowledge	EQ system, frequencies, compression
(Proficien			Skill (Problem-Solving, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reasoning)	COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS
t)		x	Physical Skill	That microphone placement doesn't matter and will pick up your voice anywhere
			Product Development	RESOURCES
			Learning Behavior	microphones, mixing board

## LEARNING TARGETS

- Use and hold microphones.
- Adjust EQ settings to fortify vocal quality.