

WALLENPAUPACK ARE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Instrumental Music Philosophy
6 – 8

Music is a fundamental form of emotional, artistic, intellectual and social expression common to virtually all cultures throughout history. As an academic discipline, it is a means of expression and communication that celebrates the human spirit. The purpose of musical instruction is to identify and develop the unique musical talents possessed by all students, enhance student self-worth and self-esteem, explore the aesthetic response to music, study music from an historical and cultural perspective, enhance student creativity and increase critical thinking skills, establish music learning as a life-long process, and promote personal responsibility, accountability, and good citizenship.

Instrumental music in the Wallenpaupack Area School District is taught as part of a planned and sequential music curriculum where students experience general, choral, and instrumental music settings. Instructed by certified music teachers, each setting offers students the chance to perform, listen to, respond to, interpret, and create music.

Learning to play an instrument offers the student the opportunity to express music in a unique manner. Playing an instrument gives students the chance to learn specific skills that enable them to perform competently and confidently on an instrument of choice. Participating in band allows students an outlet for instrumental skills and the chance to reach goals of good musicianship corporately and cooperatively. It affords students a more complete musical experience, it tests students' musical skills and abilities, and it allows each student to feel pride in successful performances.

The Wallenpaupack Area School District Beginning/Cadet Band Program seeks to enable each instrumental student to:

1. Perform competently on a band instrument alone and participate confidently in an instrumental ensemble.
2. Understand the musical notation and vocabulary needed to read and interpret music.
3. Cultivate an awareness of the innate aesthetic response to music by experiencing and performing music of various styles.
4. Critically listen and respond to music.
5. Identify music from various historical periods.
6. Develop the attitudinal skills of cooperation and dedication needed to perform successfully in musical ensembles.
7. Realize the opportunities for the enjoyment of music as a lifelong pursuit as a participant in musical organizations and music consumer.