



Southmoreland School District Percussion Methods Curriculum Overview

Percussion Methods Overview:

Students will study fundamental technique on a variety of percussion instruments. The students will have the opportunity to learn through individual lessons, small group and ensemble settings. The class is open to students of all abilities and experience levels with the objective of building an ensemble and performing as an independent group, as well as, a subset of the concert band. The class is limited in size with priority given to existing percussionists and new students that hope to perform as percussionists in the Southmoreland music program.

Module Titles:

Module 1: Snare Drum

Module 2: Melodica Percussion

Module 3: Auxiliary Percussion

Module 4: Percussion Ensemble

Module Overviews:

Module 1:

Students will develop basic technique and skills on the snare drum. These skills include understanding basic percussion vocabulary, rudimental study (theoretical and technical) and rhythmic understanding and growth in simple and compound meters.

Module 2:

All major melodic percussion instruments will be studied with an emphasis on xylophone, vibraphone, marimba and glockenspiel, as well as the timpani. During this study, we will discuss music notation across different clef signs with an emphasis on treble and bass clefs.

Module 3:

All major percussion accessory instruments will be discussed. Technical study specific to each instrument will be covered. Students will work on small group performances during this time to develop playing in a variety of different size groups.

Module 4:

The class will work to perform a full percussion ensemble work (at least one selection) that serves as a culmination of technique and offers a large group playing experience to students that may not have this opportunity.