

Kohler Content Standards for Music Education

A. Students in Kohler will **sing**, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

Singing is a basic means of musical expression in all cultures. From an early age, learning proper use of the voice in both singing and speaking is vital for effective communication. The ability to use the voice effectively in singing opens the door to personal fulfillment and expression as well as valuable activities in the school and community.

B. Students in Kohler will **play instruments**, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.

Playing instruments has evolved from early use for accompaniment and communication to another important means for personal expression through music. Instrumental music has a unique history and a body of quality literature written for particular instruments or groups of instruments. Like singing, the ability to perform on an instrument opens the door to personal fulfillment and expression as well as valuable activities in the school and community.

C. Students in Kohler will **improvise** music.

Indigenous music of every culture was first improvised and then passed on to subsequent generations through aural or “rote” learning. Improvisation continues to be an important means of self-expression in our country and is an integral part of our current musical culture.

D. Students in Kohler will **compose and arrange** music.

Composing and arranging music is an important creative activity and a means of personal expression. The performance of one’s own musical work is a source of great satisfaction as well as an important way of sharing musical inspiration with others. These creative activities are possible at any age depending upon a person’s level of music skills and knowledge.

E. Students in Kohler will **read and notate** music.

Much like reading a novel or writing a poem, music notation represents another language or symbolic system of communication. Unlike the written or spoken word, music and music notation is universal, transcending the boundaries of countries and cultures. Reading and notating music gives the student access to a vast body of contemporary and historical music literature, as well as a unique mode of personal expression.

F. Students in Kohler will **analyze and describe** music.

The appreciation of music is enhanced when one understands the elements of music and the way those elements are organized to create a music composition. Performance with understanding requires this same kind of analysis and discussion. Analyzing music is the foundation for meaningful learning and participation in most other aspects of music experience.

G. Students in Kohler will **evaluate** music and music performances.

In today’s society, music is all around us. As producers and consumers of music, all people will benefit from applying their understanding of the structure and elements of musical expression to evaluating music and music performances. This enables the student to make informed decisions and develop a greater appreciation of the music they hear or perform.

H. Students in Kohler will **relate music to the other arts and disciplines** outside the arts.

There are numerous connections and commonalities that exist among the arts, other disciplines and issues within our global society. Relating music to the other arts as well as disciplines outside the arts enhances student understanding in each discipline. Building connections gives students the chance to understand the whole(s), and parts, and their relationships.

I. Students in Kohler will **relate music to history and culture**.

Accepting the growing diversity of our culture and understanding one another can often be accomplished through music. Music reflects significant historical events and cultural relationships. By relating music to one’s own history and culture as well as the history and culture of others, students will understand and connect historical events of the world and how music functions within various cultures.