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The Clark County School District Elementary Music Orff curriculum is an integral part of the general education of all K-5 students, with the intention of enabling students to develop lifelong abilities to:

- recognize music as a vehicle for communication and the expression of ideas.
- to create and perform using musical systems and knowledge.
- understand the role of music and the musician's contribution to society.
- use musical systems and knowledge to communicate history, cultural heritage, and social consciousness.
- think critically and creatively solve problems.
- make informed choices and aesthetic judgments related to everyday life.

The Clark County School District has implemented a K-5 Orff process music education program for over thirty years through required weekly instruction for all students by certified music specialists. The goal of this program is student achievement through the development of musicianship to perform, create, and to listen to music with understanding. Based on the music education approaches and processes of Carl Orff and Zoltan Kodaly, students are actively engaged in critical inquiry concerning the structure and meaning of musical works, as well as the creation of their own music. The curriculum is aligned with Enduring Ideas (and the related components of Rationales, Key Concepts, and Essential Questions) which provide an over-arching structure to address life issues of lasting importance that extend beyond all times, cultures, and disciplines. Key concepts, skills, and experiences have been developed in a cyclical and balanced sequence based on the elements of music: Rhythm, Melody, Harmony, Form, and Expressive Qualities.

The CCSD music curriculum includes standards for K-5 students that are in alignment with the *Nevada Content Standards for Music* that emphasize the learning modes of moving, speaking/singing, listening, playing, reading/notating, creating/improvising, and evaluating. Grade level concepts and objectives based on the stages of child development have been identified that support the K-5 standards. The following principles are the foundation of this program:

- All music learning is aural and continuous with psychomotor and visual learning.
- Musical skills are first expressed through body movement and the voice, with the playing of instruments utilized to extend these skills.
- Students bring meaning to musical symbols only after experiences in hearing, naming, and producing musical sounds in a layered elemental ensemble approach.
- The varied multiple experiences in each lesson are adapted to meet individual student differences and become the basis for sharing student progress through demonstrations and programs for the school and community.

Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including the awareness of all cultures and their important contribution to our society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this program.