

# Unit 2: Technique

Content Area: **Music**  
Course(s): **Sample Course, Chorus, Chorus 8**  
Time Period: **NovDec**  
Length: **6-8 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## **Title Section**

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## **Department of Curriculum and Instruction**



**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

**Chorus, 8th Grade**

**Unit 2: Technique**

**Belleville Board of Education**

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## **Unit Overview**

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The body is an amazing instrument and needs to be properly understood to produce the best tone for vocal music. Posture and body awareness is the cornerstone to proper vocal production. Breathing and breath control will help students to advance their well-being and vocal health. Students will examine the physiology of breath and tone production, learning how these functions work in the body. Using these functions, such as projection and vowel shapes, are imperative to obtaining authentic vocalizations and establishing moods in different types of music literature. Techniques on how to continue to keep their bodies healthy and how to produce a tone using proper technique and form will also be presented.

## **Enduring Understanding**

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- The body is an instrument, and needs to be treated properly for optimal vocalization
- Vocalization is shaped by oral cavities, projection, and proper body alignment
- Proper tone is essential for group and individual performance of different genres of music
- Posture and breath directly correlate to vocal production.

## **Essential Questions**

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Essential Questions:

- Why is it important to take care of my body?
- How can the Alexander Technique be applied into my daily rehearsals?
- How does the way I sit or stand reflect upon my vocalization?
- How can I listen and blend my voice to strengthen the group sound?
- Why is tone color important?
- How can tone color shape a piece of music?

## **Exit Skills**

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By the end of Unit 2, students will be able to:

- Identify body parts utilized in vocal production
- Describe the vocalization process
- Analyze different vocal techniques, listening for key elements of proper vocalization
- Perform proper breathing and tone production in concert literature
- Execute basic Alexander Technique
- Perform breathing exercises
- Understand how the use of the various resonating cavities within the body alter color tone, projectability and perceived style
- Perform varying music styles, utilizing different vocal techniques
- Apply proper posture for optimal vocalization

## **New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSL-S)**

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VPA.1.1.8.B.1	Analyze the application of the elements of music in diverse Western and non-Western musical works from different historical eras using active listening and by reading and interpreting written scores.
VPA.1.3.8.B.1	Perform instrumental or vocal compositions using complex standard and non-standard Western, non-Western, and avant-garde notation.
VPA.1.3.8.B.2	Perform independently and in groups with expressive qualities appropriately aligned with the stylistic characteristics of the genre.
VPA.1.3.8.B.3	Apply theoretical understanding of expressive and dynamic music terminology to the performance of written scores in the grand staff.
VPA.1.3.8.B.CS1	Western, non-Western, and avant-garde notation systems have distinctly different characteristics.
VPA.1.3.8.B.CS2	Stylistic considerations vary across genres, cultures, and historical eras.
VPA.1.4.8.A.3	Distinguish among artistic styles, trends, and movements in dance, music, theatre, and visual art within diverse cultures and historical eras.
VPA.1.4.8.A.CS3	Performance technique in dance, music, theatre, and visual art varies according to historical era and genre.
VPA.1.4.8.B.1	Evaluate the effectiveness of a work of art by differentiating between the artist's technical proficiency and the work's content or form.

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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HPE.2.1.8.A.CS1	Developing and maintaining wellness requires ongoing evaluation of factors impacting health and modifying lifestyle behaviors accordingly.
HPE.2.1.8.E.CS1	Social and emotional development impacts all components of wellness.
HPE.2.2.8.B.3	Analyze factors that support or hinder the achievement of personal health goals during different life stages.
HPE.2.2.8.C.CS1	Working together toward common goals with individuals of different abilities and from different backgrounds develops and reinforces core ethical values.

## **Learning Objectives**

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- Demonstrate proper posture

- Apply breathing techniques into warm ups, daily rehearsals, and performances
- Perform concert literature with proper tone for the piece
- Project voice with appropriate style for music performance
- Critically analyze performances, citing elements of tone production and how they influence the style of the music

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			
	Convert	Manipulate			
	Discuss	Modify			
	Estimate	Operate			
	Extrapolate	Subtract			
	Generalize				
	Predict				



### **Suggested Activities & Best Practices**

- Always Model before asking them to perform
- Use Students as your best leaders and models
- Tie movement and imagery in as much as you can
- Analogies can help students understand what you want them to look/sound like

## **Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)**

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Create new analogies (formative assessment)

Perform ( summative assessment)

Review technical terms and skills (formative assessment)

Record a performance for a grade (alternative assessment)

- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals
- KWL Chart
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Web-Based Assessments

## **Primary Resources & Materials**

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-Concert Music

## **Ancillary Resources**

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-Professional recordings of concert music and professional ensembles

-Youtube.com

## **Technology Infusion**

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Professional Recordings of pieces of professional ensembles and concert music



## Win 8.1 Apps/Tools Pedagogy Wheel

Podcasts  
Photostory 3  
Kid Story Builder  
Music Maker Jam  
Paint A Story  
Office 365  
MS PowerPoint  
Stack 'Em Up  
NqSquared Numbers  
Physamajig  
Xylophone 8

Wikipedia  
Skydrive  
Lync  
SkyMap  
Skype  
Office 365  
Puzzle Touch  
Easy QR  
Memorylage  
Life Moments  
Word Cloud Maker

Where's Waldo?  
MS Excel  
Flipboard  
Office 365  
Nova Mindmapping

Ted Talks  
Record Voice Pen



## **Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology**

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- English Language Arts;
- Mathematics;
- Science and Scientific Inquiry (Next Generation);
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World languages;

## **21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes**

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- Communication and Collaboration
- Creativity and Innovation
- Critical thinking and Problem Solving
- ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
- Information Literacy
- Life and Career Skills
- Media Literacy

## **21st Century Skills**

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- Civic Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

## **Differentiation**

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### **Differentiations:**

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments

- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Use manipulatives
- Center-based instruction
- Token economy
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Scheduled breaks
- Rephrase written directions
- Multisensory approaches
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Story guides
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations
- Large print edition
- Dictation to scribe
- Small group setting

#### **Hi-Prep Differentiations:**

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Choice boards
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Interest groups
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Literature circles
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Personal agendas
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Stations/centers
- Think-Tac-Toes
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Tiered products
- Varying organizers for instructions

#### **Lo-Prep Differentiations**

- Choice of books or activities
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest

- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

## **Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)**

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- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments

- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## **English Language Learning (ELL)**

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- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## **At Risk**

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- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives

- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## **Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)**

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Please identify the **Talented and Gifted** adaptations that will be employed in the unit, using the ones identified below.

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities

## **Sample Lesson**

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Using the template below, please develop a **Sample Lesson** for the first unit only.

Unit Name:

NJSLS:

Interdisciplinary Connection:

Statement of Objective:

Anticipatory Set/Do Now:

Learning Activity:

Student Assessment/CFU's:

Materials:

21st Century Themes and Skills:

Differentiation/Modifications:

Integration of Technology: