

# Unit 4: Development of Vocal Technique

Content Area: **Music**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **Ongoing**  
Status: **Published**

## Students Will Know/Be Skilled At

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- The major organs, muscles, and anatomical processes associated with breathing, breath support, and phonation for singing.
- How to properly align their bodies for singing.
- How to breathe for singing, the types of breathing, including clavicular, thoracic, abdominal, and appoggio,
- How to engage muscles of the torso in breath support while singing and alleviate tension in the neck and throat.
- How to create resonance and the function of the soft palate.
- How to sing with good, appropriate diction.
- The most common vowel sounds, their tongue positions, and how to maintain pure vowels.
- How to assign appropriate vowel sounds for singing to any given word or syllable.
- How to maintain and perform pure vowel sounds and how to modify vowels depending upon the range of a note.
- The difference between a healthy and a damaged voice and how to care for one's voice.
- How to change and manipulate tone color and weight in the voice as appropriate for different repertoire.
- How to negotiate the passaggio (register break) appropriately.
- How to listen and balance with the voices around them.
- Proper body alignment and breathing affects the quality of the sound a singer produces.
- Singing requires awareness and development of the body in relation to the physical demands of performance.
- Each person has only one voice and it is essential to take good care of it.
- Clear and uniform diction is essential to the interpretation and communication of music to an audience.
- Vocal tone and color can be altered and manipulated to suit different musical styles and genres.
- Warming up the voice each day allows a singer to strengthen the muscles used for singing, and to

practice important aspects of vocal technique.

- The vocal technique of each member of the ensemble affects the quality of the group.
- key terms and vocabulary including, resonance, passaggio, tone color, alignment, uniformity of vowel, vowel modification, breath support.