



CURRICULUM AT A GLANCE

GRADE 8

The Westport Music Department's Vision is to develop our students' artistic literacy and global awareness by developing their ability to create, perform and respond to diverse music at the highest level in a safe and nurturing environment.

Percussion students have a unique curriculum to other band instruments, so this is a guide to their specific units of study. Please refer to the 8th grade band curriculum for ensemble units of study.

Percussion 8	
Unit Name	Learning
Snare drum - Weeks 1-6	Stick control, roll technique Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review height, angle, fulcrum, types of strokes• Review stick control - Single Beat Combinations (2 exercises 20x each with metronome)• Learn sticking rules• Advance knowledge of counting methods• Review buzz strokes Rolls Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn short roll combinations• Develop 5, 7, and 9 stroke roll execution• Write 5, 7, & 9 stroke roll in standard western music notation• Perform flams at a variety of tempos• Practice release of rolls with single stroke
Mallet percussion - Weeks 7-12	Basic Technique Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review height, angle, sticking rules• Perform Bb, Eb, and chromatic scales at increasing tempos with alternate sticking patterns (new 8th grade)• Learn proper chime technique

	<p>Reading Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform the BMS/CMS major scale warm-up and chromatic scale (alternate sticking) at a variety of tempos • Develop independence in preparing a new piece/exercise including area setup, mallet choice, and more • <p>Ideokinetics & Facility Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn ideokinetics exercises and oblique stroke exercise <p>Mallet Choice Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn advanced mallet choices (legato/staccato) for xylophone, vibraphone, marimba, glockenspiel, wood/non-wood bars, and other mallet instruments.
Timpani - Weeks 13-18	<p>Basic technique Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce timpani grip, • Continue to advance knowledge of how mallet choice impacts sound, and • Review correct playing area <p>Tuning and Rolls Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify clef and read bass clef notation • Learn the range of drums and basic tuning techniques • Learn about roll technique and how it differs from snare, bass drum, and other roll types <p>Muffling Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop independence in making choices for muffling technique
Auxiliary Perc - Weeks 19-24	<p>Bass Drum Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review beating area, mallet technique, advanced muffling (leg and hand) • Develop control and understand choice of speed of sticking and other techniques when performing rolls. <p>Crash Cymbals</p>

	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review grip and stance ● Develop crashes at a variety of volumes including crescendo and decrescendos ● Review muffling <p>Triangle Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review Set-up/positioning, beater choice and striking area ● Practice roll and muffling technique <p>Suspended Cymbal Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrate the ability to choose proper mallets for a variety of timbres ● Perform with proper technique on the correct playing area of the cymbal ● Continue to develop extended techniques <p>Tambourine Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Learn proper positioning, striking area and angle ● Develop the ability to perform three types of rolls and identify when to use them (shake, thumb, finger) ● Develop and perform extended techniques (knee fist, resting on knee)
<p>Snare / Mallets Review & Final Assessment - Weeks 25-32</p>	<p>Stick control, roll technique Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue development of stick control - single beat stockings at a variety of tempos ● Learn roll decoding / practice techniques <p>Rudiments Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Perform 5,7, and 9 stroke rolls (double stroke and buzz) at a moderate tempo with correct endings. ● Learn and perform diddle rudiments, flams, and drags <p>Mallets Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Perform Bb, Eb, C, and chromatic scales with correct stickings (Right/Left) and technique including striking area on the bar, hand position, and proper stroke <p>Percussion Ensemble Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop techniques for sight reading pieces

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Apply aural and tempo skills to new and ever more complex chamber music pieces |
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Repair/ Organize

Students will:

- Change drum heads (as needed)
- Organize instruments/mallets and prepare for storage