

**Chesterfield County Public Schools**  
**Weighted Credit Study Guide**  
 Vocal & Instrumental Music

## Terms & Definitions

<b>Accelerando</b>	<i>Speed up, get faster</i>
<b>Accent</b>	<i>Stress a note</i>
<b>Allegro</b>	<i>Fast</i>
<b>Andante</b>	<i>Moderately slow; a walking tempo</i>
<b>Cantabile</b>	<i>In a singing style</i>
<b>Crescendo</b>	<i>Gradually louden</i>
<b>Decrescendo</b>	<i>Gradually soften</i>
<b>Dolce</b>	<i>Sweetly</i>
<b>Espressivo</b>	<i>Expressively</i>
<b>Fermata</b>	<i>Hold</i>
<b>Fine</b>	<i>End</i>
<b>Flat</b>	<i>Lowers a pitch ½ step</i>
<b>Forte</b>	<i>Loud</i>
<b>Fortissimo</b>	<i>Very loud</i>
<b>Grazioso</b>	<i>Gracefully</i>
<b>Largo</b>	<i>Slowest of all tempos</i>
<b>Legato</b>	<i>Smooth &amp; connected</i>
<b>Marcato</b>	<i>Heavy, marked, march-like</i>
<b>Mezzo Forte</b>	<i>Moderately loud</i>
<b>Moderato</b>	<i>Moderate tempo</i>
<b>Natural</b>	<i>Cancels a sharp or flat</i>
<b>Pianissimo</b>	<i>Very soft</i>
<b>Piano</b>	<i>Soft</i>
<b>Poco a Poco</b>	<i>Little by little</i>
<b>Rallantando</b>	<i>Slowing &amp; broadening</i>
<b>Ritardando</b>	<i>Gradually slower</i>
<b>Segno</b>	<i>Sign</i>
<b>Sempre</b>	<i>Always</i>
<b>Sharp</b>	<i>Raises a pitch ½ step</i>
<b>Staccato</b>	<i>Light &amp; detached</i>
<b>Tempo</b>	<i>The speed of performance</i>
<b>Vivace</b>	<i>Very fast</i>

## Key Signatures

Students must identify all 15 major key signatures.

- Flats: BEADGCF (the rule for placement order)
- Flats: The next to the last flat determines the key signature.  
The exception is the key of F major, which has only one flat.
- Flat keys: F, B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, D-flat, G-flat, C-flat
- Sharps: FCGDAEB (the rule for placement order)
- Sharps: One half-step (the next line or space) above the last sharp determines the name of the key.

6. Sharp keys: G, D, A, E, B, F-sharp, and C-sharp

\*\*note the key of C has no sharps or flats

## Major Scales

Students must write major scales on a given starting pitch.

- A scale is 8 consecutive pitches starting and ending on the letter name of the key signature.
- When writing the scales be sure to list all of the appropriate sharps or flats which correspond to each individual key signature.
- Use the key signatures portion of the exam to guide you.

## Pitch Identification

Students must identify all lines and spaces of the Grand Staff (treble and bass), as well as ledger lines. In addition, students will be able to identify major and minor triads.

## Rhythm and Meter

Students must know how time signatures correspond to counting rhythm

- Top number = how many beats per measure
- Bottom number = which note gets ONE beat

EXAMPLES:

<b>Top #</b>	<b>2</b> ( 2 beats per measure)	<b>6</b> (6 beats per measure)
<b>Bottom#</b>	<b>2</b> (half note gets one beat)	<b>8</b> (eighth note gets one beat)

- Identify how many beats each of the basic notes receives according to the time signature
- res, i.e.: whole note, half note, quarter, eighth, sixteenth and the corresponding rests
- Fill in the missing beats and place bar lines for several measures

## Intervals

Students must be able to identify generic intervals

- 1) Start on the bottom note count it as 1.
- 2) Count the lines and space in between.
- 3) The number of the last pitch is the interval.