

# SCALE TEST & PERFORMANCE EXAM RUBRIC

## **TONE QUALITY**

- 4 = Tone is ALWAYS good. Characteristic, solid, centered, focused. Good use of air.  
3 = Tone is USUALLY good. Fairly characteristic, mostly focused, occasionally gets weak/airy.  
2 = Tone is SOMETIMES good but often weak, scratchy or airy. Lacks focus, support, and center  
1 = Tone is RARELY good. Usually airy tone that has not been practiced.  
0 = Tone is NEVER good. Sound is not characteristic of the instrument and clearly not practiced.

## **INTONATION (Not used on Scale Tests)**

- 4 = Tuning is ALWAYS good. All or almost all notes in tune. Intervals in tune.  
3 = Tuning is USUALLY good. Some isolated notes or intervals out of tune.  
2 = Tuning is SOMETIMES good but often out of tune and needs work. Music is still recognizable.  
1 = Tuning is RARELY good. Most notes/intervals out of tune. Music hard to recognize.  
0 = Tuning is NEVER good. So out of tune as to be unrecognizable. No evidence of practice.

## **NOTE ACCURACY**

- 4 = Note accuracy is ALWAYS good. Correct notes are performed with few or no mistakes.  
3 = Note accuracy is USUALLY good. Notes are performed with a small number of mistakes.  
2 = Note accuracy is SOMETIMES good but is inconsistent and has noticeable mistakes.  
1 = Note accuracy is RARELY good. Music is inconsistent and has obvious mistakes.  
0 = Note accuracy is NEVER good. Student cannot play the music.

## **TEMPO/RHYTHM**

- 4 = Tempo and rhythm are ALWAYS good. Steady beat & accurate rhythms with few to no errors.  
3 = Tempo and rhythm are USUALLY good. Generally steady beat & mostly correct rhythms.  
2 = Tempo and rhythm are SOMETIMES good, but beat is often unsteady and/or rhythms are wrong.  
1 = Tempo and rhythm are RARELY good. Lacks a steady beat and most rhythms are wrong.  
0 = Tempo and rhythm are NEVER good. Music not in tempo or rhythm at all and unrecognizable.

## **ARTICULATION (Not used on Scale Tests)**

- 4 = Articulation is ALWAYS good. Clear attacks and correct articulations, note lengths, and slurs.  
3 = Articulation is USUALLY good. Mostly clear attacks and correct articulations/note lengths/slurs.  
2 = Articulation is SOMETIMES good but noticeable problems with clarity of attacks  
1 = Articulation is RARELY good. Poor attacks. Plays very few of the indicated articulations.  
0 = Articulation is NEVER good. Plays none of the indicated articulations, note lengths, and slurs.

## **DYNAMICS (Not used on Scale Tests)**

- 4 = Dynamics are ALWAYS good. Plays dynamics 90-100% of the time.  
3 = Dynamics are USUALLY good. Plays most of the dynamics indicated in the music.  
2 = Dynamics are SOMETIMES good. Plays some of the dynamics indicated.  
1 = Dynamics are RARELY good. Little, if any, contrast. Shows little evidence of trying dynamics.  
0 = Dynamics are NEVER good. No dynamic contrast. Shows no evidence of trying dynamics.

## **PHRASING, EXPRESSION, AND STYLE (Not used on Scale Tests)**

- 4 = ALWAYS performs musically with phrasing and expression in the correct style for the piece.  
3 = USUALLY performs musically with phrasing and expression. Mostly in the correct style.  
2 = SOMETIMES performs musically but generally lacks expression. Some style is carried over.  
1 = RARELY performs musically. Little if any phrasing, expression, and style learned in class are carried over.  
0 = NEVER performs musically. Music is not expressive, it's just getting through notes/rhythms.

### **Auditions for 2018-2019:**

Auditions for Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band will be in the form of scale tests and performance exams throughout the year. I believe this is the fairest and most representative way to evaluate a student's performance, as it gives the student multiple opportunities throughout the whole school year to showcase his/her ability and progress. If scores are extremely close between students by the end of the year, I will factor in seniority and overall attitude to determine appropriate placement for the following year.