



Fine Arts

SAISD Fine Arts Observation Guide

Choir Music

Should See/Hear Daily

- Meaningful warm-ups
- Energetic singing
- All students using Curwen hand signs and solfege
- All students sitting upright, backs away from chairs, feet flat on the floor
- Good posture when standing
- A cappella singing
- Everyone with music
- Everyone with a pencil
- A variety of music styles / style periods / Cultures
- Warm, rich, full, beautiful tone
- Sight-reading (daily)
- Director(s) standing
- Engaged teaching
- Engaged learning
- Eye contact
- Director singing / modeling
- Well established routines

Might See/Hear Daily

- Physical warm-ups
- Standing & sitting
- Changing seating arrangements
- Recording for assessments
- Making notes in music
- Listening to short performance recordings
- Discussion of performance / concert etiquette
- Analyzing music
- Individual students working with technology
- Interval drills
- Discussion and interpretation of text
- Singing alone or in small groups
- Individual / small group / sectional instruction
- Music composition activities
- Music improvisation skills

Should Never See/Hear

- Extended silence
- Extended written work
- Talking during teacher instruction
- No warm-ups
- Slouching in chairs
- Sitting cross-legged
- Poor standing posture
- Extended playing of vocal parts on the piano while students “sing along”
- Sharing music
- Students w/o music
- Students w/o pencils
- Only “pop” music
- Thin, harsh, strained, strident or breathy tone
- Students watching commercial videos/movies
- Director(s) sitting
- Director(s) in office
- Students doing other work
- Chewing gum