8th grade playing expectations:

The following chart shows the skills successful 8^{th} grade orchestra students should be able to demonstrate by the end of the year.

Technique	-Tune all strings with pegs as needed -Vibrato
Standards: Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A, B Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A	Violins/Violas: -Third position -Second position Cellos: -Third position -Fourth position -Fifth position Basses: -Fourth position -Fifth position
Articulations/Bowings Standards: Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A, B Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A	-Spiccato -Portato
Rhythm Standards: Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A, B Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A	-Quarter note triplets
Dynamics Standards: Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A, B Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A	-fp
Key Signatures and Scales Standards: Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A, B Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A	-E Major -Eb Major -Ab Major -A Minor -C Minor -E Minor -All three forms of minor scales
Scale finger patterns Standards: Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A, B Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A	-Finger pattern #6 (scales starting on second finger for violins and violas and third finger for cellos) -Finger pattern #7 (scales starting on high 3 for violins and violas and fourth finger forward extension for cellos) *Note: Basses do not apply to this concept as their strings are arranged based on fourths instead of fifths*

Time Signatures and Tempo Markings Standards: Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A, B Music/Creating 1 – MS 6-8.A Sight-Read Standards: Music/Creating 3 – MS 6-8.C Music/Presenting 4 – MS 6-8.A Music/Presenting 4 – MS 6-8.D	-Recognizing additional time signatures such as 5/4, 9/8 or 12/8 -Full range of basic tempo markings -Changes in tempo including poco a poco, meno mosso, and piu mosso -Sight read entire pieces at a grade 1 level
Perform Standards: Music/Creating 3 – MS 6-8.C Music/Presenting 4 – MS 6-8.A Music/Presenting 4 – MS 6-8.D Music/Presenting 6 – MS 6-8.A	-Perform as an ensemble literature at a mixture of grade two and grade three levels -Perform short solos and small ensembles at grade three level -Perform selected repertoire on grade level for evaluation -Demonstrate appropriate etiquette as a performer and an audience member
Music Relationships to other disciplines Music/Connecting 10 – MS 6-8.A,B Music/Connecting 11 – MS 6-8.A,B,C	-Listen to and identify various styles of music -Relate music to other artistic forms- ex. how does music affect the visual arts -Relate music to other contents outside of the arts
Improvisation Standards: Music/Creating 3 – MS 6-8.C Music/Presenting 4 – MS 6-8.A Music/Presenting 4 – MS 6-8.D Music/Presenting 6 – MS 6-8.A	-Improvise individually and in groups over fiddle charts in a stylistically appropriate manner using ornamentation in a variety of modes and meters
Composing/Arranging Standards: Music/Creating 3 – MS 6-8.C Music/Presenting 4 – MS 6-8.A Music/Presenting 4 – MS 6-8.D Music/Presenting 6 – MS 6-8.A	-Complete short compositional exercises based on set criteria -Create a short original musical composition (at least 32 measures) -Arrange a short public domain piece for string quartet or orchestra
Evaluate Music/Creating 3 – MS 6-8.A Music/Creating 3 – MS 6-8.B Music/Presenting 4 – MS 6-8.B Music/Responding 7 – MS 6-8.B	-Evaluate another student's performances, give verbal and written feedback to help them, and evaluate the effectiveness of the feedback
Performance Assessments Music/Creating 3 – MS 6-8.A Music/Creating 3 – MS 6-8.B Music/Presenting 4 – MS 6-8.C	-Individual Playing Tests using county rubric tweaked for the house -Smart Music Tests -MusicTheory Note Tests -Fingering Tests

-Student Self-Assessments and Peer
Assessments