

Learning Resources/Textbook Suggested Material for School Board Approval & Public Review: Fine Arts:

Guitar Expressions by Aaron Stang and *Essential Elements for Guitar* by Will Schmid
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Instructional Resources

These materials are intended to be supplemental learning resources for potential use in all guitar courses. The Virginia Department of Education does not have any music textbooks adopted at the state level. Per School Board Policy IIAA, staff has reviewed materials available and have deemed these suggested resources to be suited to the specific curricular goals of Albemarle County Public Schools.

Guitar Expressions by Aaron Stang with Bill Purse is a complete class guitar curriculum designed to meet the needs of the contemporary class guitar instructor. *Guitar Expressions* combines music literacy-based learning with creative rote and aural learning. These two approaches build on, and reinforce, each other, allowing students and teachers to nurture individual strengths. Students simultaneously use melodic and harmonic approaches to the guitar while learning to read music, understand music theory, improvising, and performing song accompaniments. Throughout the book, students perform solos, duets, and ensembles using a progressive approach in which songs are introduced and then built upon in succeeding units.

In addition to core guitar skills, students are exposed to a variety of musical styles and to the cultures from which those styles originated. Students learn how the guitar is used in these various styles and cultures-and about the musicians who define them. Assessments are embedded throughout, and the integration of art, internet searches, and cross-curricular activities provides for a complete learning experience. This method has been designed to meet the National Standards for Music Education, and the Teacher Guide is comprehensive, with lesson plans and links to the National Standards.

Essential Elements for Guitar follows the time-tested classroom teaching methods of Will Schmid and Bob Morris, including popular songs in a variety of styles, and contains quality demonstration and backing tracks on the accompanying CD. This method has been designed to meet the National Standards for Music Education as well, with features such as cross-curricular activities, quizzes, multicultural songs, basic improvisation and more.

Henley Middle School has successfully used these two resources for two years now.

For more information, including the table of contents and sample student materials, click here:

- **Guitar Expressions:** http://www.alfred.com/expressions/methods_guitar.asp
- **Essential Elements for Guitar:**
<http://www.halleonard.com/product/viewproduct.do?itemid=862639&seriesfeature=EEGTR&menuid=419&subsiteid=7&>