

## Scale-Fu

### *Music in Catholic Schools Band Scales-For-Us*



As with the martial arts, individuals must progress through skills on their instruments. Achieving higher levels of skill leads to mastery on the instrument and a feeling of success. Just as new martial arts students gain accomplishment being a “white belt,” they know that this is only the beginning. They are challenged to work toward greater expertise. In a similar way we challenge all MCS band students to achieve the discipline of learning skills to become accomplished musicians on their instruments. One goal for our students is for each of them to strive to continuously learn and become better players.



#### LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

Play scales with arpeggios (notes of a chord played one note at a time)  
 Scales can be found on page 40-43 of Red and Blue Books. Alternate chromatic scale is #100 in Blue Book

White: Memorize order of sharps and flats (b's = B E A D G C F #'s = F C G D A E B)  
 Play from memory a one-octave Bb or F Concert major scale at about ♩ = 90 mm (metronome marking)

Red: Recognize “intervals” (Blue Book, #13) for example:



Play Chromatic Scale (at least one octave)  
 Play memorized concert Bb and F major scale at ♩ = 120 mm  
 Play Eb, and Ab (concert) major scales

Blue: Play a 2-octave chromatic scale from memory (using alternate fingerings for woodwinds)  
 Play F, Bb, Eb, Ab plus C, G, D, and A (written) major scales, each at ♩ = 120 mm  
 Red scales memorized  
 Play d, g, f, and c (concert) minor scales in 2 forms – natural and harmonic  
 Play Bb, Eb, and F Concert Blues scales  
 Recognize the circle of 4th/5ths.  
 Know how order of flats & sharps relate to Circle of 4ths/5ths  
 Know Keys and Key Signatures

Green: Play Chromatic Scale as per 8th Grade All-State Sheet ♩ = 144  
 Play all major scales (blue tassel scales memorized)  
 Play each (natural, harmonic, and melodic) for written f, c, g, d, a, e, b, and f#.

Black: Play from memory Chromatic Scale as per 8th Grade All-State Sheet  
 Play from memory all 15 major scales  
 Play all minor scales in all three forms (natural, harmonic, and melodic)  
 Play a pentatonic scale

**Some wise words from Shinichi Suzuki:**

***“You don’t have to practice every day...Only on the days that you eat.”***