

<u>Portales</u> <u>High</u>	<u>High School</u> <u>Words</u>	<u>Music</u> <u>Definitions</u>
1	Accompaniment	music that goes along with a more important part; often harmony or rhythmic patterns accompanying a melody
2	Balance	state of equilibrium where the individual components of music form a unified whole
3	Beat	the steady pulse in music
4	Breath support	constant airflow necessary to produce sound for singing or playing an instrument
5	Chord	three or more tones combined and sounded simultaneously
6	Clefs	musical symbol used to indicate the pitch of written notes
7	Descant	accompanying melody that is sung above the main melody of a song
8	Diction	the proper pronunciation of words when singing
9	Dynamic levels/dynamics	varying intensities of sound throughout a given musical composition (piano, mezzo, forte, etc.)
10	Harmony	the sound resulting from the simultaneous sounding of two or more tones consonant with each other.
11	Key signature	made up of sharps or flats is usually found at the beginning of a musical composition indicating the key of the music
12	Melody	arrangement of single tones in a meaningful sequence
13	Meter	the organization of beats a succession of beats and rhythms into groups as indicated by a time/meter signature
14	Meter signature	an indicator of the meter of a musical work, usually presented in the form of a fraction, the denominator of which indicates the unit of measurement and the numerator of which indicates the number of units that make up a measure
15	Phrase	small section of a composition comprising a musical thought; comparable to a sentence in language
16	Pitch	the frequency of a tone with respect to highness and lowness
17	Posture	refers to a position of a human body. In music, proper performance posture for instrumentalists & vocalists

18 Range	the set of notes a musical instrument can play, or used in a piece of music; also the vocal range.
19 Rhythm	the way movement is organized in a piece of music, using beat, no beat, long and short sounds, meter, accents, tempo, syncopation, etc.
20 Scale	graduated series of tones arranged in a specified order
21 Singing range	distance between the lowest and highest vocal pitches
22 Staves	plural of staff (the five parallel lines on which music is written)
23 Style	the distinctive or characteristic manner in which elements of music are treated. In practice, the term may be applied to composers (the style of Copland), periods (Baroque style), media (keyboard style), nations (French style), form or type of composition (fugal style, contrapuntal style), or genre (operatic style, bluegrass style).
24 Tempo	the rate of speed at which a musical composition is performed as determined by the amount of time between beats/counts
25 Time signature	number or symbol © that appears at the beginning of a piece of music indicating meter (specifically, the top number indicates how many beats per measure (bar), while the bottom number indicates which type of a note receives one beat/count; e.g.- in 4/4 or "common" time, there are four beats per measure (bar) and the quarter note receives one beat, while in 6/8 time there are six beats per measure (bar) and the eighth note receives one beat)
26 Tone	the quality of a musical sound
27 Two-part rounds	a musical composition in which two voices sing exactly the same melody over and over again, but with each voice beginning at different times
28 Unison	the simultaneous playing or singing of the same notes by two or more performers either at the same pitch or in octaves
29 Vibrato	rapid movement back and forth or up and down
30 Vocal quality	a singer's tone quality derived from proper posture, diction, breathing, tongue and soft palate placement, etc.