

Practice Record Grading Chart

The CCSD grade book program calculates your exact grade based on the number of minutes practiced. Total minutes practiced, averaged over the grading period, based on 20 minutes per day, seven days per week. Twenty minutes per day equals a grade of 100. These are estimates of your practice record grades based on the number of cumulative minutes practiced.

First 9 Week Grading Period

A	878+
B	780-877
C	721-779
D	681-720
F	0-680

All other 9 Week Grading Periods

A	1128+
B	1002-1127
C	927-1001
D	875-926
F	0-874

Sample Practice Session

- 5-10 min. Long Tones (to warm up your embouchure muscles, focus breathing, prepare mentally to listen to your tone quality, etc.). Can be scales, crescendo/decrescendo exercises, etc.
- 5-10 min. Scales/Techniques (to start fingers moving, develop evenness and control). You should practice slowly at first, and gradually build speed. Always use a metronome.
- 2-5 min. Articulation (to develop clean legato and staccato styles and speed). Pick some comfortable pitches and start at a slow tempo. Practice various rhythms in different combinations with a metronome.
- 10-15 min. Method Books (Lesson materials, etudes, class tests, etc.)
- 10-15 min. Band Music (to come prepared for class each day). Isolate difficult passages and work through them slowly. Practice with accurate rhythms and tempos. Use a metronome.
- 2-5 min. Play something you like! End your session with something you do well or enjoy playing. It can be a tune you like or a passage in your music.

Practice Checklist

POSTURE	TONE	PITCH	RHYTHM	ARTICULATION	FLUENCY
Sit on the front edge of your chair	Get rid of stale air	Say letter names of notes	Count and clap rhythms	Begin each note consistently with tongue	Play entire excerpt, without mistakes, in one try
Place feet under knees	Inhale deeply	Use correct fingerings, positions, or sticking	Say or sing pitch names in rhythm	Identify all printed articulations	Play entire excerpt, without mistakes, three times in a row
Sit up straight	Move air quickly	Produce consistent pitches	Finger notes in rhythm	Perform printed articulations	
	Make strong sound		Play in tempo with metronome		
	Make clear sound				