

# Developing ePortfolios of Student Work

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Room L100 A

## What is an ePortfolio?

- A Google Drive Folder that is shared between a student and their teacher(s) that contains various samples of their work from grades 5-12.
  - Suitable for instrumental, vocal, and general music programs.

## Why Use an ePortfolio?

- To develop a long term record of student achievement and growth.
- A method to organize/compile the work that students are already doing in their music programs that can follow them from the day they start in a music program to graduation.
  - Demonstrates measurable growth from year to year.
- To establish a practice routine with consistent deadlines/expectations for students.
- Encourages self-reflection for students.

## What Goes in an ePortfolio?

- Student Projects (Compositions, Worksheets, Research)
- Concert Reviews
- Practice & Rehearsal Videos/Recordings
- Quarterly Individual Growth Statement
- Any other student work that demonstrates growth

## How to Create an ePortfolio

- Choose your platform - ISD 748 uses Google Drive, but there are additional options.
  - Dropbox, flash drives/external hard drives, Schoology, Seesaw
- In Google Drive, the process for creating ePortfolios is:
  - Student create folder with full name and graduation year.
  - Students then share the folder with their teacher(s).
  - Students create various sub-folders to keep materials organized.
    - By grade, by semester/quarter/trimester.
    - Additionally, materials are specifically titled to create ease of sorting through a significant amount of files.

## Benefits of Implementing ePortfolios for Educators

- ePortfolios meet numerous standards:
  - MN State Arts Standards across four strands:
    - Artistic Foundations, Artistic Process: Create or Make, Artistic Process: Perform or Present, and Artistic Process: Respond or Critique
  - Common Core & Career Readiness Standards
    - Reading, Writing, Language

- ePortfolios provide evidence of student growth, something teachers are often asked for by their districts/administrators.

#### **Potential Challenges of Using ePortfolios**

- As with any project, implementing ePortfolios requires additional time commitments:
  - Monitoring student video submissions and grading.
  - Faculty collaboration to align program goals/expectations.
  - Coordination of multiple technological platforms.
- Inconsistent lesson attendance leads to inconsistent recordings.

#### **Improvements from Implementing ePortfolios**

- Requires students to practice on a consistent schedule.
- Creates an increase in parent involvement and the ability for parents to view what students are doing in their classes/rehearsals.
- Students are actively reflecting on their musical growth and finding ways to improve.
- Improves the connection between multiple technological platforms.
- Align grade level goals/expectations between music faculty.

#### **Student Perspectives on ePortfolios**

- During self-reflections, students are also asked to reflect upon the ePortfolio process.
- Positive Perspectives:
  - Students enjoy being able to look back at their younger selves, both in terms of their performance abilities and their appearance.
  - Students recognize that the video requirement of ePortfolios require outside practice and find themselves practicing more.
- Negative Perspectives:
  - Students feel that recording themselves and submitting the recordings to an ePortfolio can be time consuming.
- Most importantly, regardless of if students like the ePortfolios or not, the majority understand the importance of the ePortfolio.
  - They recognize the significance of reflecting upon their growth.

#### **Questions, Comments, or Ideas?**

- Contact us! We would love to collaborate on ePortfolios.
- Link to presentation materials: <https://tinyurl.com/ISD-748-ePortfolios>