Performance-based SLO – Chromatic Scale

Preparation
Chromatic scale sheets are included in this folder. Print the scale sheet for each student. If, for some reason, they won’t open or print, Google daviehighbands@weebly.com and print a chromatic scale sheet for each instrument. Major scale sheets are also available on this site.

Determine which scale(s) is/are best for each instrument/student.

Pre-test
Ask each student to play a chromatic scale from memory, beginning on a note you choose. (See Consideration d below.) Students should play the scale ascending and descending. Reeds should alternate sides when appropriate. Scale should be performed from memory. (This can be done in pull-out sectionals, or recorded and sent to you to review, or it can be done in class. Be certain that those waiting their turn do not have time to study the scales. See Considerations a and b at the bottom. Record the number of mistakes each student makes.)

Teaching and Learning
Practice the chromatic scale as part of your daily warm up. It is also possible to practice just the ascending scale for a week and then the descending scale for another week.

Post-test
Ask students to perform the ascending and descending chromatic scale from memory. Record the number of mistakes. Compare the post results to the results from the pre-test.

Considerations
a–Because of how much time this ultimately takes, consider teaching everyone the scales but only using part of the class as your testing sample. Check the SLO requirement – you may be able to test 5-10 students only!
b–To make it even easier, use students who play the same instruments for your testing sample.
c–SmartMusic or similar programs may be of assistance to you in the testing.
d–Consider setting a time limit for the performance of each scale, especially in the pre-test.
e– for elementary students, the requirement can be adjusted to a 8-note ascending and descending chromatic scale (up a 5th and back down).