WELCOME TO
BEGINNING BAND

SUCCESS

MATERIALS
- Working instrument of decent quality
- Maintenance supplies
- Method book
- Metronome
- Music stand
- Pencil

ROUTINE
- Establish a daily plan for playing the instrument at home
- Check weekly emails for assignments and upcoming events
- Prepare all assigned material from class to class

EFFORT
- Strong work ethic
- Willingness to receive help

ATTITUDE
- Positive attitude
- Willingness to learn

MATERIALS, ROUTINE, EFFORT, ATTITUDE
(prepared for each band rehearsal)

SUCCESS
(meets all requirements)

POSITIVE RESULTS
(high level of interest/enjoys band)

Students that consistently complete the first step, LOVE band. Students that do not, don’t.
RESPONSIBILITY

Teacher’s responsibilities:
- Teach your child to be a musician.
- Teach at an appropriate pace.
- Select appropriate level music.
- Come to rehearsal prepared to review old concepts and teach new concepts.
- Teach proper techniques.
- Make each rehearsal creative, interesting, and exciting.
- Allow extra time before school for students to come in for additional assistance.
- Prepare the students for concerts/performances.

Students’ responsibilities:
- Play the instrument at least 5 minutes a day (assigned music from class).
- Bring the instrument to school on all rehearsal days and bring it home at the end of the rehearsal day.
- Be prepared to play assigned material from the previous class.
- Turn in credit sheets and other required papers on time.
- Stop in for additional help before school (Mon. thru Fri.) and/or lunch recess (Wed. and Fri. only).
- Show enthusiasm and effort.

Parents’ responsibilities:
- Establish a consistent daily routine for the child to play the instrument.
- Remind them of all their responsibilities (these children are from 10-12 years old; they are still learning to be responsible).
- Assist them with time management/prioritizing (homework, play instrument, chores, video games).
- Read and review all weekly emails with your child.
- Attend all conferences and support the progress of the student.

By the end of the year, you will have invested a considerable amount of money on items (monthly instrument rental, replenishing supplies, private lessons—if applicable, etc…). You and your child will have also invested countless hours of time (transporting the instrument to and from school, attending band concerts, rehearsals in school, playing the instrument at home, etc…).

PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT!
PROCESS OF HOW WE LEARN
AT SCHOOL AND AT HOME

1. RHYTHM
   • Clap and say the rhythm (ta, ta, ta-ah)
   • Use metronome

2. FINGER ALONG WHILE SAYING NOTE NAMES
   • Instrument in playing position, moving fingers, slide, or mallets (saying ‘d, d, f…’)
   • Use metronome

3. PLAY
   • Use metronome

4. FINGER ALONG WITH DEMONSTRATION CD TRACK
   • Check for accuracy

5. PLAY ALONG WITH ACCOMPANIMENT CD TRACK

SUGGESTIONS FOR PRACTICING AT HOME

1. Create a daily routine (suggested order):
   1. Academic homework from class
   2. Practice instrument
   3. Chores
   4. Play time (video games, etc.)

2. Practice at least 5 minutes per day
   • It is typical for students to get carried away and practice more (this is good!).
   • It is more beneficial to practice 5 min. per day than an hour one day and 3 days off.
   • Students should play whether they feel like it or not.

3. Have a goal
   • Having a goal allows students to have productive practice sessions.
   • Each rehearsal day, new material is assigned. This should be the focal point of practice.
     Examples: (Short term goals)
     -Play assigned material with minimal mistakes
     -Isolate specific measures or note combinations that may be difficult
     Examples: (Long term goals)
     -Play along with the CD
     -Perform a solo/small ensemble piece for the next band concert
     -Make first chair for the next playing test

4. Use a metronome
   • Using a metronome helps the students to play correct note values and establish a steady pulse.

5. Music stand
   • Using a music stand allows for the instrument to be kept in proper playing position.
     (Practice does not make perfect, practice makes permanent)

6. Practice space
   • An environment with minimal interruption is ideal.

7. Repetition
   • Once played correctly, the phrase or note pattern should be repeated several times to become habit.

8. Improvise
   • Students should make time to create their own music on their instruments.

9. Perform for others
   • Students should have opportunities to demonstrate their progress to friends and family.
This is an example of what the updates will look like in the weekly email:

**DOBSON BAND APPRECIATION NIGHT PAPERS SENT HOME**
Orange papers regarding Dobson Band Appreciation Night will be sent home on Day 2 of band this week. The confirmation sheet is to be signed and returned by Friday, October --, 2009.

**FREE UPCOMING CONCERTS**

- **Dobson Symphonic Band**
  - Tuesday, October --, 2009, 7:30 pm
  - Dobson High School auditorium

- **ASU Wind Symphony**
  - Thursday, October --, 2009, 7:30 pm
  - Gammage Auditorium, ASU

Students can receive 20 extra credit concert attendance points for attending each of these events.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Holiday Band Concert**
  - All band members, attendance mandatory
  - December --, 2009 6:30 pm
  - BTW multi-purpose room

**ASSIGNMENTS/OBJECTIVES** (for the following week in band)

**BEGINNING BAND**

**Day 1**
- Note review/ New note
- Stepping and Skipping, p. 6 #2 (NEW) (rhythm and notes)
- Cowboy Ballad, p. 6 #1 (REVIEW) (rhythm and notes)

**Day 2**
- Note review/key signature
- Notes, p. 6 #4 (NEW) (rhythm and notes)
- Stepping and Skipping, p. 6 #2 (REVIEW) (rhythm and notes)
- Dobson Appreciation Night papers sent home
# BAND SYLLABUS
## 2009-2010

### QUARTER 1 August 12-October 09

#### 5th Grade Beginning Band
- Written quiz (notes/rhythms)
- Playing test (selected music)
- Demonstration Concert (attendance mandatory)

#### 6th Grade Bulldog Band
- Written quiz (articulation/notes/rhythms/key signature)
- Playing test (selected music)
- Demonstration Concert (attendance mandatory)

### QUARTER 2 October 19-December 18

#### 5th Grade Beginning Band
- Parent Conferences (October 19-23)
- Composition project (rhythm)
- Playing test (composition project)
- BTW Fall Festival (attendance encouraged)
- Dobson Band Appreciation Night (attendance encouraged)
- Holiday Concert (attendance mandatory)
- Additional holiday performances (TBA)

#### 6th Grade Bulldog Band
- Parent Conferences (October 19-23)
- Travel to State Fair (perform/free time)
- Composition project (rhythm)
- Playing test (composition project)
- BTW Fall Festival (attendance encouraged)
- Dobson Band Appreciation Night (attendance encouraged)
- Holiday Concert (attendance mandatory)
- Travel to Tempe Marketplace/Peter Piper Pizza (perform/eat/games-attendance encouraged)
- Additional holiday performances (TBA)

### QUARTER 3 January 04-March 10

#### 5th Grade Beginning Band
- Parent Conferences (January 11-15)
- Composition project (rhythm/melody)
- Playing test (composition project)
- Solo/Ensemble Concert (February)

#### 6th Grade Bulldog Band
- Parent Conferences (January 11-15)
- Rhodes step-up recruitment concert (January)
- Composition project (rhythm/melody)
- Playing test (composition project)
- MPS Honor Band auditions/rehearsals/concert (attendance encouraged)
- Solo/Ensemble Concert (February)

### QUARTER 4 March 22-May 27

#### 5th Grade Beginning Band
- Written quiz (notes/rhythm/key/time signature)
- Playing test (selected music)
- Spring Concert (attendance mandatory)

#### 6th Grade Bulldog Band
- Written quiz (articulation/notes/rhythm/key/time signature)
- Playing test (selected music)
- Spring Concert (attendance mandatory)
BAND PROCEDURES, POLICIES, AND GRADING ’09-‘10

BAND PROCEDURES:

1. Attendance
   • Everyone MUST attend band class whether the instrument is at school or not.
   • Everyone MUST attend band class whether they feel like it or not.
   • Students that miss a day of band due to absence from school MUST come in on their own time outside of class to receive what they missed before the next band rehearsal.

2. Prepared for Class
   • Instrument
   • Music: Book w/CD-5th grade Beginning Band; 3 ring binder w/page protectors for 6th grade Bulldog Band.
   • Pencil
   • Supplies:
     o Woodwinds: At least 3 good reeds, necessary cloths and swabs
     o Brass: Valve oil, and slide creams
     o Percussion: Sticks and mallets
   • Each student should be able to play ALL assigned material. (playing tests, etudes, particular sections in the music, scales, etc.)

3. Preparation at Home
   • Each family will need to create a routine that fosters consistent, monitored daily practice at home.
   • Each family will need to review the weekly email and be aware of all assignments and upcoming events.
   • Every student must play his or her instrument at least 5 minutes each day at home.
   • Students practice with a metronome (purchased or online).
   • Students practice using a music stand.
   • Weekly credit sheets are to be picked up, filled out, and turned in each week to receive credit for playing at home.

4. Instruments
   • Instruments are kept in the storage room across from the music room, not in the classroom.
   • Each instrument goes in a cubby space, not on the floor.
   • Instrument cases will be kept at the rear of the classroom during rehearsal.
   • If an instrument is left at home on a rehearsal day, the student will need to call home to see that it gets to school by the time of rehearsal (loaner instruments are NOT handed out).
   • Everyone must take his or her instrument home at the end of the rehearsal day for practice.

5. Behavior
   • Everyone plays when appropriate (together unless instructed otherwise).
   • Students play/handle only their own instruments.
   • Be respectful of self, others, and equipment.
   • Students bring a positive attitude to class.

6. Consequences
   • Students will receive an infraction (two point deduction) will be given for the following reasons:
     ✐ Talking or playing over teacher in class during a rehearsal
     ✐ Instrument left at school at the end of the rehearsal day
   • Students will receive a red note or homeroom class point deduction for the following reasons:
     ✐ Three infractions during a rehearsal day (will also result in the student getting sent back to class)
     ✐ Leaving an instrument at school at the end of a rehearsal day three times in a grading quarter
     ✐ Forgetting an instrument at home on a rehearsal day three times in a grading quarter
   (If an instrument is in repair, please send a note to notify me. This will not affect the student’s points. Please allow me to look at the instrument before sending it to repair. Sometimes it is a minor repair that I can fix. This can save a lot of time and money)
   • If the child is temporarily unable to bring the instrument home, please send a note to notify me.
BAND POLICIES:

- Band is a year-long commitment.
- Students cannot be removed from band by parents as a result of punishment or academic grades.
- An Improvement Plan can be put into effect for a student for the following reasons:
  - Consistently being unprepared for band
  - Sudden change in attitude toward band
- Improvement Plans often entail the following:
  - Student coming in outside of band for individual attention
  - Routine for home practice established by parent/teacher (if necessary)
- A parent/teacher conference will be held to create the appropriate Improvement Plan for the student.
- A failed Improvement Plan may result in the student being removed from the band program by the teacher.
- Parents must meet with Mr. Richau at conference time after the first and second quarters to receive the band report card and review the student’s progress.
- Failing to meet at conferences or at a rescheduled conference time may result in the student being removed from the band program by the teacher.
- Students must attend all mandatory band concerts. Failing to attend without an excused absence (parent/student communication with teacher) will result in the student being removed from the band program by the teacher.

GRADING:

200 POINTS NECESSARY TO MAKE THE QUARTERLY BAND PIZZA PARTY

Written quizzes/assignments: (20 points each) 1 per grading quarter
All material in the written quizzes/assignments will be from information covered in class. This is why it is necessary to attend class whether the instrument is at school on a rehearsal day or not. Students are required to turn in assignments in class the day they are due. Any late assignments are subject to a 5-point deduction from the available total. Students absent from school on the due date of a written assignment or the day of a written quiz will need to come in on their own time outside of band to turn it in or to make it up.

Playing tests: (20 points each) 1 per grading quarter
All material for playing tests will be from the band music or scales that will be covered in class. This is why it is necessary to play the instrument everyday at home for at least 5 minutes. Students are required to complete playing tests in class the day they are due. Students that do not have necessary materials the day of the playing test are subject to a 5-point deduction from the available total and will need to come in on their own time outside of band within one week to make it up. Students absent from school on the date of a playing test will also need to come in on their own time outside of band within one week to make it up.

In-Class Responsibilities: (8 points total, each rehearsal)
Attendance (2 pts.), Instrument (2 pts.), Music (2 pts.), and Pencil (2 pts.). Forgetting an instrument up to three times on rehearsal days in one quarter will result in a red note or loss of a point in their homeroom point system.

Credit sheets: (5 points) At least 1 credit sheet is expected from each student per week.
Every credit sheet has 5 boxes that must be dated with a parent/guardian signature to account for every 5 minute practice session outside of school. This gives the student credit for playing his or her instrument outside of school.

Final concert: (20 points) The final concert of each quarter is counted as a final exam grade.
School band concerts require formal dress (nice shirt/blouse, shoes, dress, etc.) Concert attendance is mandatory with the exception of excused absences including family emergency or illness. If there is a scheduling conflict, please notify me as soon as possible. Students without an excused absence will be removed from band by the teacher.

Information handouts sent home (Confirmation Sheets): (10 points) each handout
Handouts with important information regarding upcoming events will be periodically sent home. Each handout will have a due date to be returned with a parent signature required to confirm that it has been read and understood. Students only receive one copy and must assume responsibility for it. Handouts that are not returned by the due date will result in a 10-point deduction and a call home.

Concert attendance: (20 points) extra credit
Students are encouraged to attend live musical performances outside of school. After attending, the student must fill out a concert attendance sheet with a parent signature to receive credit. The concerts can be any style of music (classical, jazz, theater, rock, rap, etc.) The event(s) must be attended with the purpose to see the musical event. (Marching band in a parade, half time show in a football game, or church bands do not apply.)
NAME: Student Name  TEACHER: Teacher Name
GRADE: 5/6

ATTENDANCE: (class points)

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<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>TOTAL CLASSES</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>CLASSES ATTENDED</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>WITH MUSIC</td>
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<td>WITH INSTRUMENT</td>
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EFFORT GRADES:
O = Outstanding  S = Satisfactory  N = Needs Improvement

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attitude: cooperative, self disciplined, exhibits interest</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>O</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Work habits: makes effort to correct errors</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>O</td>
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<td>Practices sufficiently</td>
<td>S</td>
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MUSICAL COMPETENCY GRADES:
O = Outstanding  S = Satisfactory  N = Needs Improvement

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Correctly plays and counts rhythms learned to date</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>O</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Correctly plays and reads notes learned to date</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
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POINTS RECEIVED: 200 points needed to attend the pizza party

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<tr>
<th>QUARTER</th>
<th>WRITTEN ASSIGN.</th>
<th>PLAYING TEST</th>
<th>CREDIT SHEETS</th>
<th>CONCERT ATTEND.</th>
<th>CONF. SHEETS</th>
<th>EXTRA CREDIT</th>
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COMMENTS:
Student occasionally has difficulty identifying note names in the music. Our goal for this next quarter will be to identify note names more quickly. Saying note names while finger at home is a great way to improve this. The student was one point away from the pizza party! Turning in more credit sheets (student only turned in 4) or attending musical performances outside of school and turning in concert attendance forms will give him/her a shot at making the pizza party next quarter.