



## Pershing Middle School Music Department\_

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### Classes

**Guitar** (7th & 8th grade) **Beg. Band** (6th grade) **Beg. Orchestra** (6th grade)

**Int. Band** (7th & 8th grade) **Adv. Band** (7th & 8th grade with musical experience)

**Adv. Orchestra** (7th & 8th grade)

### Course Description:

These classes provide the opportunity for students to learn an instrument and be part of an ensemble. Primary focus is on learning an instrument, understanding music theory, technique and overall musicianship. Students will also be expected to demonstrate their knowledge on their instrument at a concert each semester.

### Instruments:

Students will need instruments every day, unless instructed otherwise. Instruments can be rented from a music store, bought, or borrowed from the school. To borrow an instrument from the school, there is a form that needs to be filled out by the parents.

**Instrument cases should have students' names clearly marked.** (A luggage tag works very well)

Students will be given the opportunity to choose the instrument they want to play. We will go over instruments in class prior to choosing instruments. I will do my best to ensure that every student is able to play the instrument that they want but unfortunately I can not guarantee students playing their first choice of instrument. If there is not a balanced ensemble we will be missing important musical parts and students will not have the best experience.

### Class Objectives:

1. To obtain knowledge of musical notation, concepts, terms and ideas according to state standards.
2. To develop sight reading skills, and understanding of various rhythmic patterns.
3. To advance performance skills and audience etiquette.
4. To perform for peers, parents and the community throughout the year.

**Expectations:**

1. Be on time and prepared
2. Have instrument and music everyday (unless instructed otherwise)
3. Actively listen and participate
4. Respect yourself, others and classroom
5. Rehearse music consistently throughout the school

**Required Materials:**

1. Instrument
2. Binder with clear sheet protectors
3. Pencil & highlighters

Music and handouts will be used during the whole year. Students will need to be responsible for any music or handouts that are given to them.

**Grades:****Grading scale**

Letter Grade	GPA Weight	Rating Scale	Proficiency in every Critical Concept
A	4	Exceeds standards	3.00-4.00
B	3	Meets standards	2.50-2.99
C	2	Approaching standards	2.00-2.49
D	1	Beginning progress towards standards	1.00-1.99
F	0	Little to no progress towards standards	0.00-0.99

**Grades are based on:**

**Playing of instrument:** playing test done in class, music is selected by teacher

**Music theory:** Written Test

**Being prepared for class:** having music, instrument, other materials every day for class

Concert Attendance: students are expected to come to all concerts (if students are sick or another legitimate reason a make up assignment will be given)

**7th and 8th grade classes only**

**One non-instrument based project each semester** (ex. Comparing music, composition, etc. )

### **Practice and Rehearsal:**

Students are expected to practice and be prepared to rehearse as an ensemble. Rehearsal time should be used to work on improving as an ensemble and working on music, not for individuals to work on notes or rhythm.

### **Plagiarism**

Students are expected to complete their own work. Copying from another student will not be tolerated. Students who allowed other students to copy will also be penalized. If students are caught copying or allowing other students to copy, a zero will be given for the assignment that was plagiarized. An alternate assignment will be given to replace the original assignment. Not completing the alternate assignment will result in students keeping the zero.

### **Late Work:**

Late work will be accepted during the six week progress report period. If assignments are turned in close to or on the last day of the six week grading period there is a chance there will not be enough time to grade the assignment prior to the end of the six week, in this case the student will stay with the previous grade. Please see dates for the first semester below.

Semester 1 Progress Report 1

9/19/25

Semester 1 Progress Report 2

10/31/25

End of semester 1

12/19/25

### **Concert Attire:**

**I do not want the concert attire to be an extra financial burden but the idea with the concert attire is that students look nice when they are going on stage. The reason for the following attire is so that the students look like an ensemble and one student does not stand out.**

**Bottoms:** black slack, black skirt (skirt must be knee length or longer)

**Tops:** White button down, white formal shirt (no logos)

**Shoes:** Black dress shoes

## **Important Dates**

**All students: 2 concerts towards the end of each semester** (more information to come soon)

**6th grade cluster concert TBA**

**7th & 8th grade cluster concert TBA**

Other opportunities for performances might come up during the school year.

I am looking forward to this school year, getting to know all of the students, and continuing to grow the music program here at Pershing Middle School. Music is not a subject that can be crammed for the night before, it is very important to practice as much as possible. Let's have an amazing year!