



2022-2023 Orchestra Course Expectations

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Course Description: Orchestra is a one-year course designed as a study in instrumental production of music fundamentals with opportunities to play a variety of Orchestral literature. Emphasis will be placed on providing each student with an array of performance experiences.

I. Course Content and Sequence

Quarter 1: Proper technique, including posture and position. Music theory, Scales, Performance etiquette and all aspects of Orchestral Performance.

Quarter 2: Continue all concepts from the previous quarter. Sight-reading: rhythmic and melodic and dictation

Quarter 3: Continue all previous concepts. Differentiating musical styles, music history, Pre-Festival and Festival Preparation

Quarter 4: Continue all previous concepts. Performance of different musical styles, composition, cooperative learning projects

II. Course Activities:

Performances: Winter Concert - 12/8/22, Spring Concert - May 3, 2023

All performances are a required part of this class. Performances will be either 5:00pm - 5:45pm or 6:00pm-6:45pm.

*Additional performances may occur throughout the year; dates will be announced.

III. Orchestra Promotion/Retention



- a. Students will be assessed continuously throughout the school year. Students will be assessed on the fundamentals of Orchestral performance, their ability to blend, and their ability to work with peers. As growth in playing is continuous, students may discuss placement with the director at any time. Adjustments may be made accordingly.
- b.



IV. **Orchestras at K.O.**

1. **Beginning Orchestra:** This class is non-auditioned. During the course of the year this class studies Music Theory, Musicianship, Performance Etiquette and Orchestral Techniques. This Orchestra will perform at the Winter and Spring Concerts. Attendance at all performances is required!
2. **Intermediate Orchestra:** This class is auditioned. During the course of the year this class studies Music Theory, Musicianship, Performance Etiquette, Orchestral Techniques and Music History. This Orchestra will perform at the Winter and Spring Concerts. Attendance at all performances is required!
3. **Advanced Orchestra:** This class is auditioned. During the course of the year this Orchestra will study Advanced Music Theory, Musicianship, Performance Etiquette, Orchestral Technique (Orchestral and Solo), Music History and more. This Orchestra will perform at the Winter Concert, CCSD Middle School Orchestra Festival, and the Spring Concert. More performances may be added. In addition, this Orchestra may travel and participate in performances around the community. Attendance at all performances is required!
4. **Chamber Orchestra:** This class is auditioned. During the course of the year this Orchestra will study Advanced Music Theory, Musicianship, Performance Etiquette, Orchestral Technique (Orchestral and Solo), Music History and more. This Orchestra will perform at the Winter Concert, CCSD Middle School Solo and Ensemble Festival, CCSD Middle School Orchestra Festival, ASTA Middle School Orchestra Festival, and the Spring Concert. More concerts/performances may be added. In addition, this Orchestra may travel and participate in performances around the community. Attendance at all performances is required!

V. **Missed Performance Policy**

Performances are a required part of all Orchestra classes, so attendance at every performance is required. Only under extreme circumstances will a student be excused from performance attendance, and it is at the teacher's discretion to excuse an absence from a performance. If a student is absent, s/he will receive a "missing" grade for the attendance portion of the performance. A make-up assignment can be provided for any student not in attendance.

Ticket Sales –

Tickets will be sold through the web site ShowTix4U.com. Please make sure to get your tickets ahead of time as once shows are sold out, you may not be able to watch your child perform. Tickets are \$5.00/ticket.



VI. **Field Trip Attendance:**

VII.



- a. Students are subject to KO Standards for Student Participation. With the exception of Festivals or administration approval, students must be passing all classes with a “C” or better to attend.
- b. Students will be given Medical Forms and Field Trip Permission Forms at the beginning of the school year. All materials will be kept on file in the Orchestra classroom and be used for trips throughout the school year. If any medical changes need to be noted, it is expected that parents or guardians submit the corrections to Mrs. Ratigan and to the Health Office as soon as possible.

VIII. **Course Materials:**

- a. **Chamber and Advanced Orchestras - Orchestra Dress/Tuxedo, black character/dress shoes purchased from K.O.**
- b. **Beginning and Intermediate Orchestras - Black K.O. Orchestra shirt, black pants, all black socks, and all black shoes**
- c. **Daily - Book, Binder/Folder, Pencil, ID Badge - shoulder rest for Violins/Violas, Cello Strap or Rock Stop for Cellos and Basses. Instruments are expected for every class period as well as a charged Chromebook.**
- d. **Websites and Programs:**
 - **In this class, students will use websites such as Google Suite, including Google docs, Google Sheets, Google sites, YouTube, as well as Smartmusic, Breezin’ Thru Theory and Musictheory.com.**
 - **Some of these will require students to log in using their school google account.**

IX. **Uniform Requirements:**

- a. Uniforms are provided to students each year. It is expected that the uniform should not be altered unless permission is given by Mrs. Ratigan. When the uniforms are returned in the spring, they need to be dry cleaned with a dry-cleaning receipt attached to the dry-cleaning bag. Uniforms returned not dry cleaned will be assessed a \$20 cleaning fee.

X. **Classroom & Behavioral Expectations:**

- a. Orchestra Room Expectations: Ready, Respect, Responsible
- b. Students that are unable to adhere to the Orchestra expectations will be subject to disciplinary actions including but not limited to: conferences, detention, removal from activity, referral to SSC or counselor, etc.



XI. **Explanation of Dues:**

- a. \$40 per student is required. This covers music, method books, supplies which may include strings, shoulder pads, rock stops, cello straps, rosin, and some performance fees.
- b. \$20 instrument rental through the Orchestra Department. This allows you to rent the instrument for the school year. Must be returned in the same shape you received it. Students can purchase their own instrument but please check with Mrs. Ratigan before doing this to make sure the instrument you are considering is of good quality and in working order. Students can also rent from a music shop such as Violin Outlet.

XII. **Specialty PAWS**

- a. Students may be selected to participate in Specialty PAWS. This additional class meets during Block Days in the morning. This class offers additional assistance, performance opportunities, coaching and more. Due to the advanced nature of this class, all students are expected to maintain a C average or better in all classes. Grade checks will be monitored, if a student fails to maintain K.O. expectations they will be placed on a probationary warning at the quarter. If the student still does not meet the requirements of specialty PAWS, they may be removed from the class at semester and placed in an Academic PAWS class.

XIII. **K.O. Standard Practices**

- a. Linked below are the K.O. Standard Practices
- b. [K.O. Standards and Practices](#)



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please encourage your student to keep these Course Expectations for future reference. Also, please sign below and have him/her return this sheet to me by Friday, August 26, 2022. If any changes must be made to this document, I will send written notice with your student.

Please contact me at ratigll@nv.ccsd.net or at 702.799.7470 extension 4063 if you have any questions regarding this information or if you have any questions in the future.

I look forward to meeting you and having a successful year with your child.

Mrs. Ratigan

I have read the Course Expectations and understand what is expected of my student.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

I have read the Course Expectations and understand what is expected of me.

Student Name (print) _____ Pd. _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian's home phone _____

Parent/Guardian's work phone _____

Parent/Guardian