

Eisenhower High School Orchestra Handbook
2022-2023
Ms. Pamela Lawson, Director and NBCT



Dear Parents and Students,

I welcome all of you to the EHS Orchestra Program! This year will be full of opportunities for all of us, and I look forward to working with all of you so that we can have the best year ever! This handbook will cover class expectations, grading policy, and important concert dates. I ask that you mark your calendars now as most of our performance dates have been scheduled and placed on the school calendar last spring.

Finally, I am looking forward to working with your child. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ms. Pamela Lawson, Director and NBCT
Eisenhower High School Orchestra
SCKMEA Asst. Orchestra Chair
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(316) 794-4150 (316) 794-41900

Ms. Lawson's Daily Schedule

7: 25-8:29 7th Grade Strings

8:34-9:28 8th Grade Strings

9:33-11:26 Eisenhower High School

11:30-1:30 Lunch/ Plan/Travel

1:30-2:00 5th Grade Strings

2:15-2:45 6th Grade Strings

Communication- I will send out weekly updates about what we are working on as well as performance information to include recordings. I will post these on Skyward and Google Classroom. Please let me at once if you are not receiving a weekly update.

Strings in Harmony Website

<https://sites.google.com/d/1mk3W9st5YwMMbqDf8SyinM9L2slyBmeP/edit>

REMIND -is an app that allows parents to communicate with the teacher without having to share phone numbers. This app is designed for short messages only. Please call or email me at

school for situations that require an extended conversation. Signing up for REMIND is easy! Simply text @4eec44 to 81010.

<https://www.remind.com/join/347607>

Instruments-School and Owned

We have a small number of school owned instruments, and these are made available to students who are unable to obtain an instrument. Students will need to sign an agreement form prior to taking the instrument home. Bass players will be assigned an instrument at school, but they are encouraged to check out an extra bass to keep at home for practice.

The Curriculum

This orchestra will feature a diverse repertoire in concerts, and you can also expect to learn Classical music as related to world events and other art forms. The motto for this orchestra is that we play everything from ***Bach to Rock!*** In addition, music theory, music history, and the fundamentals for advanced playing will be a major part of learning. All students will need to click on the link below (not for those who have already joined), to sign up for Studyguide.com. This website will be used as a tool for learning and assessment. Students will need to sign up using the school google email.

Class Expectation

It is my expectation that every student enter the class with instrument and all learning materials in class on a daily basis. Students will be expected to rehearse for the full duration of class. It is also expected that the student complete homework or missed assignments from other classes outside of our orchestra class time- I will issue a penalty of a full grade reduction of students' daily grade for violating this policy.

Home Practice In order to make satisfactory progress in this class, home practice is required! Cello and bass players who are unable to transport instruments home will need to check out a school owned instrument for home practice.

Cell Phone Policy

Cell phones are not allowed in class under any circumstances except for a class assessment. In addition, these devices are not to be visible as per school policy. Students caught using these items without the permission of the director will be issued a reduction of their daily grade for violating this policy. Phones will be confiscated and turned in to the school administration.

Grading Policy

A daily grade of 10 points will be awarded for having the following items in class: ***Instrument, books, and accessories.*** Assessments will be conducted on a weekly basis on classroom music and the students will need to demonstrate specific skill sets from the method books. Scales, oral and/or written exams will also be part of the assessment. These exams will vary between 50-100pts. Participation 50, Exams 20, Concerts & Performances 30%.

. Rehearsal Schedule

In order to have a effective rehearsal and a meaningful learning experience, students are expected to observe the following:

9:27 be in the classroom and retrieve instrument and music

9:33 in your seat and ready to tune Note: There will be a 2pt grade penalty for entering the room without a pass at this time

Check the board for class objectives and announcements, if any.

Class Rules

1. No restroom pass will be issued the first or last 10 minutes of class. When hall passes are granted, students are to scan a QR Code prior to leaving class and upon returning to class. Cell phones are to remain at the teacher's desk or podium until the student returns to class per school cell phone policy.
2. Show respect for the director and your classmates at all times
3. Absolutely no talking or playing your instrument during tuning!
4. No food, drink, or gum. Bottled water is okay.
5. Do not handle any instrument other than your own
6. Do not talk or play out of turn while the director is speaking
7. Stop playing when the director stops to correct mistakes
8. Keep quiet unless the director asks you to speak. This is a matter of self-respect, courtesy, and professionalism
9. Be on time to class. If you arrive late without a pass, you will be counted tardy. Upon a late arrival, you will need to use your cell phone to scan a QR Code - this will keep a log of all class tardies. You will be considered tardy if you are not in your own seat and with the proper materials when rehearsal starts.
10. Follow all rules and instructions the first time given
11. No cursing or profanity.
12. Always have with you your instrument, music, and a pencil.
13. Clean up your area at the end of the rehearsal.

Consequences

1. Verbal warning (and points taken off daily grade)
2. Conference with student
3. Parent phone call or email
4. Office referral

Course Materials

- Instrument
- Expressive Techniques for String Orchestra (Brungard, Alexander, Dackow, & Anderson) & Mueller Rush Book 3
- Pencil

Acrylic Nails

Acrylic nails are not allowed in the orchestra! Acrylic nails have an adverse effect on left hand posture, which will result in playing out of tune. More importantly, music adjudicators perceive wearing acrylic nails during a performance as a sign of disrespect for the festival setting as well as the entire performance group. I will issue a daily grade of a zero to any student arriving to class with acrylic nails until they have been removed. Weddings, prom, and school dances will not except a student from this policy if they interfere with any of our festival concerts.

Google Classroom

Most of our material will be available online on Google Classroom. This material will include music, worksheets, and other online activities. You will need the following codes to register for Google Classroom.

- EHS Class Code **fzaqwim**

Section Leaders

Our orchestra shall function as a *team*, and on occasion, we will break out into *sectionals to practice certain sections of the music*. Although I will appoint section leaders to lead a section of our orchestra, there will be some situations where multiple members within a section may serve in a leadership role. Section leaders

will be appointed based on but not limited to *playing ability, integrity, discipline, ability to lead, loyalty, and positive interaction with peers*. I will on occasion direct feedback to the section leader, who in turn will share changes to the music within his or her section. However, only the *Concertmaster* may make changes for every section whenever necessary (bowings, dynamics, articulation, ect.).

EHS String Quartets & EHS Chamber Strings

These are select ensembles that will travel, perform, and serve Srecommunities in our district and occasionally throughout the Greater Wichita Area. Students who successfully audition for these groups will be expected to attend all scheduled rehearsals and performances. Students are granted membership into these ensembles by audition only.

Academic Eligibility

Eligibility is monitored by the *Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA)*. Students who are failing two or more classes at the end of each 9 weeks are declared ineligible until the next -week quarter. While ineligible students may still attend concerts and other school sponsored activities, they will not be allowed to participate in any KSHAA Sponsored events.

The Kansas District Orchestra

Auditions will take place at Eisenhower High School on November 5, 2022. Required scales and excerpts can be accessed at SCKMEA.org

The Kansas All State Orchestra (must have participated in SCKMEA District Orchestra)

Audition Date

Jan. 8, 2022

Weather contingency date

Jan. 15, 2022

Location

Salina-Lakewood Middle School

1135 E Lakewood Circle

Salina, KS

For additional information about All State Orchestra- including driving directions to

Lakewood Middle School in Salina, please visit <https://ksmea.org/liveauditions/>

<https://ksmea.org/calendar/>

Field Trips This year the orchestra will take a spring trip, and this will involve an overnight stay. Detailed trip guidelines will be made available soon.

Fundraising there will be several fundraisers during the course of the year with most sponsored by EIMB. Proceeds from these fundraisers are vital to our orchestra program, and all students are encouraged to participate whenever possible!

Orchestra T-shirt & Hoodie Order Form

<https://forms.gle/WSMMXdXGyJ8vd6YC9>

Attire Please click this link to submit the handbook form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdmtVp_5wRY708lPqEeu5FgppwRDQQ5ULccw5Dwj9NFcACiFA/viewform?usp=sf_link