

Centennial Middle School Band Program 2017-2018 *Percussion*



Welcome to the Centennial Middle School Band Program!

I am looking forward to an exciting and fun year. Band is a full-year class because we have so much great music to learn and play. Last year the Wind Symphony got into top day of the **State Junior High Band Festival** and received a Sweepstakes award for their performance. This year our goal is to get both the Symphonic Band and the Wind Symphony in to the State Festival. Students in the Concert Band and Beginning Band will prepare to be a part of these great bands moving forward. My goal is for each student to be a successful musician and for every ensemble to sound great as a group.

Students please read and discuss this document with your parents. Please sign and return the signature page by **Friday, August 25**.

Parents the best things you can do to help your student succeed this year are:

- Encourage your students to complete daily practice assignments.
- Check with them every week to see how many pass-offs they have completed.

If you have any questions, the best way to contact me is by email at peterw@provo.edu. Lots of information about the Centennial Band (assignments, dates, etc.) can also be found at timpviewthunderbirdband.com.

Sincerely,

Mr. Werner

Peter Werner
Centennial Middle School
Director of Bands

Supplies and Equipment

Books:

- All students will be given a school copy of *Simple Steps to Beginning Percussion*
 - Any damage to books must be paid for at the end of the year.
- All students will be given a percussion pass-off book that is theirs to keep.

Pencil (No Pens)

Instruments and Supplies:

- All percussion students are required to pay the \$35.00 instrument fee for use of the numerous school percussion instruments. **Students will not be allowed to use school instruments until they have paid this fee or obtained a fee waiver.**
- Concert Snare Drum Sticks
 - **Must be Vic Firth SD-1 General**
- Practice Pad
- Bell Kit with soft rubber mallets
- Digital Metronome (**for home use**; great **free** online and mobile app options are available)

What Do You Need to Bring to School?

- Students will work on practice pad one week and mallets the next week.
 - Students should bring necessary mallets or sticks depending on the week.
 - Students should bring their practice pad on practice pad weeks.

Fees

Class Fee - \$12 (paid with student fees)

Instrument Use - \$35 (paid with student fees)

- Students will use \$10,000s worth of school percussion instruments throughout the year. This fee goes towards providing and maintaining these instruments and necessary equipment.

Lost Book - \$30

Grading Policy

Playing Skills (50%)

- *Pass-offs (40%)*
 - Students will be required to complete 2-4 pass-offs each term.
 - Pass-offs will be completed using **SmartMusic Classic**.
 - Students will receive a Pass/Fail grade.
 - In order to Pass, a student must get at least a 95% on **SmartMusic Classic**.
 - Students who do not complete the pass-off by the due date will be given a zero until they complete the pass-off. They will be allowed as many attempts as needed to complete the test and can still earn full credit.
 - Pass-offs on concert music must be completed before the concert to receive credit.
 - Occasionally, students will be asked to play a portion of their concert music to check their preparation.
 - SmartMusic Classic is available for home use with the purchase of a subscription and microphone. Generally, most percussionists are able to complete their pass-offs at school because our class size is smaller and they have ample opportunities to use it. Consequently, I generally don't recommend that percussionists purchase SmartMusic Classic access, although you are welcome to if you would like.

- *Practice Logs (10%)*
 - Students will turn in two practice logs each **Friday they have class**.
 - Students are expected to complete multiple repetitions of method book, technique, and concert music assignment.
 - Late practice logs will still receive credit for the number of repetitions completed.

Assignments (30%)

- *Listening Assignments (10%)*
 - Two parts (choose one per term)
 - Attend a Band Concert that includes your instrument.
 - Create a Playlist of songs featuring your instrument.
- *Preparedness (5%)*
 - Students must be prepared with the necessary supplies, books, music, and pencil.
- *Theory Assignments (15%)*
 - Note name pass-offs, rhythm tests, and written activities completed mostly in class.
 - The following apps can be purchased at home for additional practice (not required):
 - NinGenius (Student Version – \$0.99): Instrument fingering and note naming.
 - Tenuto (\$3.99): Music theory and note name practice.
 - *DVD Assignments:*
 - There will be some DVD's shown in class during the school year. These lessons are designed to help students gain an understanding of musicians' and composers' lives, musical concepts, and view outstanding performances.

Performances (20%)

- Performance is one of the National and State Curriculum Standards for learning music. Students are expected to attend and participate in all performances.
 - **All students must arrive 30 minutes before the concert to warm-up.**
- The Centennial Middle School Band is a group where each person is important. Each day is spent learning how to play as a group as we listen, tune, and balance to others. Absence of one individual makes a big difference in this process.
 - Absences will only be excused for major events (i.e. weddings, funerals, etc.) and illness. Notification must be provided **at least 30 days prior to the concert or rehearsal** so an appropriate make-up assignment can be given and parts can be reassigned if necessary.
- Because percussionists meet in a separate class, at least one mandatory after school rehearsal will be held before each performance.
 - It is so important that each student is at the after school rehearsal. This experience cannot be accomplished by practicing more on your own, since it is our only chance to practice with all of the parts together. Consequently, there is no make-up available.
- Rehearsal and performance dates are provided in a different document.
- **Concert Dress:**
 - Ladies: White blouse with a black skirt/hose/pants/socks/shoes.
 - Men: White dress shirt with a tie and black pants/socks/shoes.
 - **No denim, No T-shirts, No sandals, No bare feet/legs.**

Attention: Students with Disabilities

- If you have any disability that may keep you from successfully completing this course, please contact Mr. Werner. Academic accommodations are granted for all students who have qualified, documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor through the main office.

Band Disclosure Document

Signature Page

I have read and understand the disclosure document and agree to:

- Bring the required supplies to class each day.
- Complete all assignments, including pass-offs.
- Practice repetitions for daily assignments.
- Attend all after school rehearsals and performances.

Student Name (Please Print)

Period

Student Signature

Date

Student Email

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I have read and understand the disclosure document and agree to:

- Help my student obtain the necessary supplies.
- Encourage them to complete daily practice assignments.
- Have them at all after school rehearsals and performances.

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Email

Please return this page, with signatures, to Mr. Werner by Friday, August 25, 2017.