

Centennial Middle School

Band Program

2019-2020

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 and Symphonic Band both made it into **State Junior High Band Festival**. Centennial is the only school with only 7th and 8th graders to consistently have two bands invited to perform at the State Festival. Our goal this year is to get both bands back to the State Festival and to continue to improve their level of performance. Students in the Concert Band and Beginning Band are a very important part of our band program as they 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 acknowledge that you have read the document by going to the link or QR code at the bottom of the last page by **Monday, August 19 (A Day Classes) or Tuesday, August 20 (B Day Classes)**.

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

- Encourage your students to practice daily. Practice = repeating over and over small chunks of music (2 notes, 1-2 measures, etc.)
- Encourage them to prepare for pass-offs.

If you have any questions, the best way to contact us by email. 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
peterw@provo.edu

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:

- Concert Snare Drum Sticks
 - **Must be Vic Firth SD-1 General**
- Practice Pad
- Bell Kit with soft rubber mallets

Note: Practice Pad, Bell Kit, sticks, and mallets are often sold as a set. These items are used for practice purposes so there is no need to purchase an extremely expensive kit. Often, you can find the best deals on Amazon or other online source by searching for "bell kit". The sticks in these sets sometimes are not adequate, but you can easily buy the Vic Firth SD-1 drumsticks for not very much.
- Digital Metronome (**for home use**; great **free** online and mobile app options are available)
- Music Stand (not required; for home use only; wire stand recommended for price)

What Do You Need to Bring to School?

- Students will work on practice pad one week and mallets the next week. This will be communicated in class.
 - Students should bring necessary mallets on mallet weeks.
 - Students should bring their practice pad and sticks 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 (60%)

- *Playing Tests/Pass-offs (50%)*
 - Students will be required to complete 2-4 pass-offs each term.
 - Pass-offs will take place during class on most days.
 - Students must receive a minimum score to move on to the next pass-off.
 - Retakes will happen during class.
 - Before retaking a test students must complete at least 30 practice repetitions on that exercise and turn in a parent-signed retake form to Mr. Werner.
 - Occasionally, students may be asked to play a portion of their concert music to check their preparation.
- *Practice Logs (10%)*
 - Students will have their practice log checked on the last day of class for the week (either Thursday or Friday).
 - Students are expected to complete multiple repetitions of method book, technique, and concert music assignment.
 - In addition to practice students must listen to at least one song performed by a professional musician who plays their instrument. A list of musicians can be found on the back of the practice log. Recordings can be found on YouTube.
 - Late practice logs will still receive credit for the number of repetitions completed.

Theory Assignments (20%)

- Note name and fingering pass-offs, rhythm tests, and written activities completed in class.
- Students must receive a minimum score to move on to the next pass-off.
 - Retakes will happen during PLUS on NG Days (Wednesdays and Thursdays) and before/after school.
- The following apps can be purchased at home for additional practice (not required):
 - NinGenius (Student Version – \$0.99): Instrument fingering and note naming.
 - Musictheory.net (Free)/Tenuto App (\$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 and demonstrate great concert etiquette.
 - ***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 or pants and 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.**



Grading Scale

A	93-100%	B-	80-82%	D+	67-69%
A-	90-92%	C+	77-79%	D	63-66%
B+	87-89%	C	73-76%	D-	60-62%
B	83-86%	C-	70-72%	I	0-59%

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.

Disclosure Document Signature

To get credit for having read the disclosure document please fill out the information at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/gj2iezRxC1nKr6q48>

