

# **Northwest Middle School**

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade General Music Syllabus**

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### **Course Description**

General Music is a nine week course where students will learn about the timeline of music history, the various instrument families and ensembles where they are often heard, and performance techniques. Rhythm is a key component to this class, as students will be learning how to read and perform music. Provided this is 8<sup>th</sup> grade music, there will be a much stronger emphasis on musical performance and ensemble time.

### **Tutoring**

I am available for after school help and lessons every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. However, due to the duty schedule there will be weeks when I am not available after school until approximately 4:30 P.M. Also, after school rehearsals with band ensembles will not allow me to provide help to individuals on those particular days.

### **Learning Objectives for this course are as follows:**

Popular music

Jazz

20<sup>th</sup> Century

Romantic Period

Impressionism

Classical Period

Baroque Period

Composers and Performers

Instrument Families/Ensembles

Intermediate/Advanced Rhythm

Intermediate/Advanced Theory

Time Signatures

Performance strategies and technique

Ensemble performance and practice

### **Text**

All text materials will be provided by Mr. Mitchell. We will primarily complete assignments and study concepts through “Tradition of Excellence in Music Theory”

### **Other Necessary Materials**

1. #2 Pencils
2. Notebook paper

Students will be required to respond to questions in written format every day. Please make sure these materials are in class.

### **Grading Scale**

- A 93-100
- B 85-92
- C 77-84
- D 70-76
- F below 70

### **Grading Policy – this follows the district assessment guidelines**

#### **Major Assessments – 50%**

These assessments might include: Written and performance based tests, projects, and performances for an audience.

#### **Minor Assessments – 50%**

These assessments might include: In-class assignments, class participation, theory homework, and practice.

Grades will be entered into Power School, a web-based grading and attendance program. A hard copy of this grade book will be kept as well. Progress reports and report cards will be given.

### **Missed Work / Make-up policy**

Students will be expected to make up written work and playing tests within five days of returning to school. If the student is ill, I strongly suggest that a friend, sibling, or parent come to Northwest to obtain the student's make-up work.

### **Complete Daily Schedule**

- 7:45-8:10 - Morning Practice for band students
- 8:33-9:18 - 1<sup>st</sup> prd. 6<sup>th</sup> grade band
- 9:24-10:10 - 2<sup>nd</sup> prd. 6<sup>th</sup> grade band
- 10:15-10:37 - Planning
- 10:42-11:30 - 3<sup>rd</sup> prd. 8<sup>th</sup> grade music
- 11:35-12:10 - Lunch/Planning
- 12:15-1:00 - 4<sup>th</sup> prd. 8<sup>th</sup> grade band
- 1:05-1:33 - Planning
- 1:38-2:23 - 5<sup>th</sup> prd. 7<sup>th</sup> grade music
- 2:26-3:15 - 6<sup>th</sup> prd. 7<sup>th</sup> grade band

Student Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_