

**DUNLAP VALLEY
MIDDLE SCHOOL
MUSIC DEPARTMENT**



**2019-2020 MIP
(Music Information Packet)**

BAND

Marching Band is for 7th and 8th grade band students. They perform in the High School homecoming parade each year. 7th and 8th grade Choir and Orchestra students should plan to “march” along with the band block to show their school/Valley Music pride! DHS Homecoming Parade 2019 is Thursday, October 3rd after school.

Band rehearsals are held during the school day. Sixth grade students have two rehearsals per week during study hall. (Monday and Wednesday) Seventh and eighth grade students rehearse during study hall on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Group band lessons are taught during either study hall or SLC/advisory time one time per week. Schedules will be posted beginning the 2nd full week of school.

Jazz Band for 7-8th grades meets on Tuesdays. Likewise, these rehearsals are during study hall. Please see below if your student is also in choir.

Woodwind Supplies Clarinet and Saxophone students should be playing on reeds classified as “2 ½ strength” for 6th grade and higher for some 7/8th grade students. Reeds of a lower number are too soft for this age student and will produce a poor sound. Reeds make **a huge** difference in sound quality; therefore, we suggest ONLY ***Rico; Rico Royal; or Van Doren*** brands. **(Van Doren being the highest quality and lasting the longest)**

The director of bands is Tina Holloway. Mrs. Holloway is a graduate of NIU and holds Masters hours from the American Band College at Southern Oregon University. She has taught in central Illinois for the past 34 years; both at the high school and middle school levels. In addition, she was an adjunct music instructor at Bradley University for several years. Mrs. Holloway can be reached at 243-1034 or via e-mail: tholloway@dunlapcusd.net.

ORCHESTRA

Orchestra rehearsals are held during the school day. Sixth grade students have two rehearsals per week during study hall. (Monday and Wednesday) Seventh and eighth grade students rehearse during study hall on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

Group orchestra lessons are taught during either study hall or SLC/advisory time. Schedules will be posted beginning the 2nd full week of school

The director of orchestras is Mrs. Rosemary Ardner. Mrs. Ardner is a graduate of Ball State University and holds a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership, with a focus on fine arts assessment, from Aurora University. She is an active professional violinist in Central Illinois. Since 2006, Mrs. Ardner has taught orchestra at the elementary, middle, and high school levels in Dunlap. She may be reached at 243-1034 or via e-mail: rardner@dunlapcusd.net

CHOIR

Full Chorus Rehearsals meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays during study hall.

Voice sectionals are organized by voice type and are held one time per week during a study hall (M, W, or F). Rehearsal schedules of students in both instrumental ensembles and choirs will be organized by the music faculty.

The director of choirs is Sarah Seymour. Mrs. Seymour is a graduate of Greenville College and holds a Masters degree in Voice Performance from The Boston Conservatory in Boston, MA. She has taught for 14 years at the elementary, middle school and high school levels. She also maintains a private voice studio. Mrs. Seymour can be reached at 243-1034 or via e-mail: sseymour@dunlapcusd.net.

Orchestra and Band students participating in Chorus is encouraged! Great instrumentalists are often wonderful singers and vice versa. The music department will coordinate with each other so that each student interested in participating in both organizations can do so successfully.

ADDITIONAL INFO

Band and Orchestra Instruments are much like automobiles, all makes and models are not equal! Resale values, ability to acquire parts/repair, and quality of sound varies. Please do not hesitate to contact the music department with questions when buying new or used. We will be glad to arm you with the information you need to make a sound investment.

Kidder Music services our school district. Their store is located just off Pioneer Parkway directly behind Sherwin-Williams Paint Store on Crestline Drive. They are open Monday through Thursday from 9am-6pm and Friday from 9am-5:30 pm. Saturdays they are open from 9:30am-3:30pm. Reeds, oils, supplies, books, music etc. for your student can be purchased there. The store phone number is 692-4040. They also have a website at www.kiddermusic.com.

Private lessons are something many students indicate an interest in. We recommend accomplished adult musicians that we feel are not only excellent musicians on their instruments and voices, but relate well to young people. Please contact the directors for names and phone numbers.

Music Department Dress Code All 6 through 8th grade musicians will need a music department polo shirt AND. These are available to order at the beginning of each school year. Students wear these shirts at concerts, competitions, and music field trips along with black dress pants/skirts, black socks/hose, and SOLID BLACK SHOES. Young ladies should consider the length of skirts when seated.

Sports/club conflicts are handled between the music directors and school coaches/administration. MOST of our students are involved in extra-curricular sports or activities such as student council, scholastic bowl, dance, cheerleading, etc. MANY are involved with SEVERAL! It is our philosophy to support our musicians with their talents as best we can.

Grading in the Music Department is based on practice/preparation, attendance and classroom participation. Specific ensemble expectations and policies will be posted to the school website under Fine Arts.

The most frequently asked question and concern for parents is; “Doesn’t my child NEED their study hall?” It has been our experience that nearly all of our students learn to budget their time wisely. The intellectual and social benefits of a music education are immeasurable.

WE ARE GOING GREEN! Attached is our yearly calendar. Please note that this is EVERYTHING we do as a department. Some activities may not include your child.

ADD/DROP DATES The deadline for adding/dropping a music course for fall semester is Tuesday, September 3rd, 2019. The deadline for adding/dropping a music course for spring semester is Friday, January 17th, 2020. Students new to our school may add music courses upon arrival to DVMS.

SCHOOL WEB Detailed information for events will be posted to the school website at least one week prior to the activity. (dunlapcusd.net/dvms/Pages/Splash.aspx). Click on the “Fine Arts” bar along the top of the page.

WE’RE ON FACEBOOK! Additionally, calendar, info and pictures, etc. during the school year will be posted to Facebook. You can find us at “Dunlap Valley Middle School Music”.