

Southwestern Middle School

WILDCATS



**General Music Handbook
2019-2020**

Dear Southwestern General Music Students and Parents,

Welcome to General Music Class at Southwestern. Music is all around us and we experience it in all facets of our life. It is vitally important that as a member of society we can critically listen to and have a basic understanding of music.

WHAT IS GENERAL MUSIC?

General Music is a music enrichment course. In this course, students will receive exposure to many different types of music and how it relates to culture and history. Some of the music we will study will be quite familiar, and some will not be as familiar.

In this course, success will come from listening with an open mind and being willing to learn from new experiences. Everybody is entitled to have favorites in their life. In music, we all have our own favorites and preferences. Therefore, we should feel welcome to share our opinions, yet respect the opinions of others.

When you come to class every day, you are expected to understand and respect the rules and procedures of the music department. Music is a discipline and every student of music must understand and respect the amount of discipline that goes into music.

WHAT MATERIALS DO I NEED FOR CLASS?

You will need the following **required** class materials for general music.

- School Issued Chromebook/Computer
- Three-ring binder: One-inch thick minimum: Any color **except black**.
- Please use loose-leaf college ruled paper. No spiral bound notebook paper please.
- Tabbed notebook dividers which can be labeled – You will need at least 5 dividers for your notebook – Please No pocket dividers
- Pencil or Black Ink Pen - Please no gel pens

WHAT ARE THE DAILY PROCEDURES?

Students are expected to bring the following materials to class each day without exceptions:

1. Come to class with all the appropriate materials: pen or pencil, lined paper, and class binder.
2. Before you are seated, get your general music textbook from the designated area in the classroom.
3. Check the Daily Agenda on the board for your assignments and class activities.
4. Sit in your assigned seat.

Everyone is expected to **learn** and participate in Music Class. Every student is expected and encouraged to take a positive approach towards all music that we listen to and learn about. You will enjoy the activities and projects that we do in class if you have a good attitude.

TEXTBOOKS – Every student will be assigned a textbook for class use. Students are to get their textbook at the beginning of class every day and return it to the designated area in the classroom. Any damages to a textbook will be charged to the student responsible for the textbook.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Students must be in their seat with all required materials by the end of the passing period.
 - Tardiness will follow the Southwestern Middle School Tardy Policies
 - Restroom Policy will follow the Grade Level Restroom Policies.
 - There are restroom passes for students to use.
2. Gum, candy, food, or drinks are not allowed in the classroom.
3. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking or leaving your seat, unless there is an emergency.
4. Keep your hands, feet, and all other objects to yourself – No Bullying
5. Do not disrupt the education of other students in any way or manner.

TECHNOLOGY EXPECTATIONS

1. Have your Chromebook charged and ready to use for class.
2. Your Chromebook will be used primarily used for class assignments, research, music theory homework, and tests.
3. When your Chromebook is not being used for class, it should be put away under your seat.

Students are expected to respect each other as individuals, demonstrate good citizenship, follow class rules and expectations, participate in class in a positive manner, and complete class work and homework to the best of their ability by the scheduled due date.

EXPECTATION CONSEQUENCES

- 1st time: Verbal Warning (you will be aware)
- 2nd time: Student conference with the teacher after class
- 3rd time: Parents contacted AND detention before, after, or during school.
- 4th or more times: Discipline Referral to Office + Parents Contacted

Follow these simple rules and we will have a successful school year.

HOW AM I GRADED IN CLASS?

The Music Grade is made up of the following components:

- CLASS NOTEBOOK – 20%
- TESTS – 30%
- CLASSWORK AND HOMEWORK– 30%
- PARTICIPATION GRADE -20%

CLASS NOTEBOOK: To ensure that everyone in the class is developing their knowledge and appreciation of music, **everyone** will need to maintain a class notebook for class. **This notebook MUST be a one inch three-ring binder with college-ruled paper.** The notebook will be divided into five different sections with **tabbed dividers** according to the grading rubric provided in class. Notebook assignments will be assigned in class and will pertain to the material we are covering in class. The teacher will collect the notebooks two times each grading period and grade any non-computer based class assignments. The notebook grade will make up **20%** of the class grade.

TESTS and QUIZZES: We will be covering six different units of music and there will be a comprehensive test at the conclusion of each unit. Maintaining complete class notes as well as participation in class will help greatly on these tests. The tests will make up **30%** of the grade.

CLASSWORK AND HOMEWORK: To help everyone with the material and put it to good practice we will have several individual and group projects. Group projects will be done in class only and there will be strict time limits to each project. Each member of a group will be responsible for their share of the group's grade according to the project rubric. Willingness to get the assignment done and work with others is the key to these projects. Other projects will be for individual students to work on at school or home. The combination of group and individual projects will make up **30%** of the final grade.

CLASS PREPAREDNESS and Participation:

This grade is controlled by many different classroom factors. By participating in class, bringing the required materials each day, and contributing positively to the learning environment; students can easily achieve an extremely high participation grade. Everyone will have the same opportunity to earn extra credit points for outstanding accomplishments in the classroom. (Sometimes over 100 %)

Students can also receive extra credit for attending music and other fine arts events outside of school. To receive credit, simply bring in a program for the event with a parent/guardian signature. If you wish to keep the program, please bring a note from home stating you wish to keep the program. Events you can receive credit for include: ***Any Public Performance such as, school choir concert, band concert, dramatic theater performance, musical theater performance, orchestra Concert, jazz band performance, Purdue Convocation, or any other public performance that has a program handout.***

Please keep this for reference throughout the school year. I look forward to having a great year and having many wonderful musical experiences with our Southwestern students.

General Music Handbook - Confirmation Form

All Class Materials Due by Monday - August 19, 2019

You will need the following **required** class materials for general music.

- Three-ring binder: One-inch thick minimum: Any color **except black**.
- Please use loose-leaf college ruled paper. No spiral bound notebook paper please.
- Tabbed notebook dividers which can be labeled – You will need at least 5 dividers for your notebook - **Please No Pocket Dividers**
Pencil or Black Ink Pen - **Please No Gel Pens**

IMPORTANT:

Please sign the confirmation sheet below to indicate both parents and student have read and understand the Southwestern General Music Handbook and its policies. Please return (***this paper only***) to your teacher by Friday August 16, 2019. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mr. Eisan by email or phone.

X _____
Parent/ Guardian Signature

Date

X _____
Student Signature

Date

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