



Jackson Academy of Math & Music (JAMM)

Middle School Music (6-8) Information Sheet for 2020-2021 school year

Teacher Information:

Teacher: Dr. Russell Zimmer
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Introduction:

The *Visual and Performing Arts Content Standards for California* serve as important benchmarks to ensure that all students are receiving high-quality education and are well prepared for success in post-secondary education and the workforce. The standards are robust and provide a coherent and rich preparation for the next grade level. This requires a shift in the curriculum at all levels in order to match both the content skills and the understandings contained in the Visual and Performing Arts Content Standards for California. Teachers will use a variety of materials and resources to assist in student mastery of these standards. If you would like to preview the Common Core standards please visit this website: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/>

District Adopted Text/ Materials by Content for First Trimester

Adopted Materials for Middle School Music:
Standards of Excellence
Essential Elements 2000

Projected Topics Covered for Trimester 1:
Music Fundamentals/ Theory
Music Appreciation
Rhythms - Reading and Application
Analysis and Critique of Musical Genres

Curriculum: In addition to the projected topics listed above, teachers will be reviewing content from the previous grade level in all subject areas. The review topics will help all students understand the grade-level content that will be covered during this first trimester. **Teachers reserve the right to amend the projected topics listed above based on student needs.**

We will be using a standards-based curriculum that follows the three guiding principles of JAMM: direct explicit instruction, multi-source curriculum, and the response principle. This means that we will

be: conducting virtual lessons to directly teach content, using many modalities for students to learn the standards, and finally, students will be demonstrating their acquired knowledge in varied activities. **Google Classroom Information:** For the 2020-2021 school year, we will be using Google Classroom as our virtual learning platform. This is where teachers will be posting announcements, daily/weekly assignments, videos, etc. It is important that students and families log in to google classroom on a daily basis for the most up to date information. The following unique code is what you will type in to join the class.

Google Classroom code(s):

6th Grade – uezo3lh

7th Grade -tmkel5z

8th Grade – hbu6vo2

If you are new to Google Classroom, please go to this link and watch the provided tutorials on how to navigate the learning platform. Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lgS-hoSljnw>

Learning Environment Materials Needed: This is a list of the materials that students will need to complete virtual learning successfully:

- Music Staff Paper (will be provided)
- Pencil and Pens
- Headphones
- Computer mouse since they often fail on the Chromebook

Synchronous vs. Asynchronous Instruction: We will use two main methods of instruction delivery: synchronous and asynchronous teaching. Synchronous teaching is when a teacher is interacting with students, such as a Zoom Meeting, whole/small group instruction, monitoring student progress, and providing real-time feedback to students. The second instructional style is asynchronous teaching where a teacher has filmed a video, posted a video for students, or posted independent practice assignments. Each method has positive attributes and we will use either method where they feel appropriate.

Daily Agenda:

9:15-10:15	Zimmer	Music 7th
10:15-10:25		Break
10:25-11:20	Zimmer	Planning/ Grading
11:20-12		Lunch
12:00-12:40	Zimmer	Music 6th
1:00-1:10		Break
1:10-2:05	Zimmer	Video Lessons
2:05-2:45	Zimmer	Music 8th

2:45-3:00	All Teachers	Office Hours
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****Please go to your homeroom Google Classrooms for your detailed schedule****

Communication: We will establish continuous communication with students and families throughout virtual learning. This communication will be through email, phone calls, progress reports, video conferences when deemed appropriate by the teacher. It is important for students and parents to continually check for Google Classroom updates and email their teacher for clarification when needed. In order to maintain continuous communication, it is important that parents/guardians check Aeries and make sure that the correct email address and phone number are listed. If they are incorrect please contact your child’s teacher and the front office.

Virtual Classroom Expectations: Students are expected to check their Google Classroom prior to arrival time and get their materials ready. A list of needed materials will be posted daily. It is best if there is a designated place in the home that is free from distractions and permits the student to have a flat surface for their computer and a chair (e.g. table or desk). While in a Zoom classroom, students are expected to be attentive abide by the following:

- No cell phone usage
- Cameras must be on and the student must be visible for the duration of the call
- All behavior must be in accordance with district and school behavior policies
- Conversations must be civil, on topic and relevant
- Active participation is a requirement
- Clothing must be school appropriate (no pajamas)
- Refrain from walking around

Attendance: Teachers will be taking attendance on a daily basis during virtual learning. If students are inactive on Zoom and/or not completing assignments, they will be marked either tardy or absent. It is important that families set up a school routine of signing in to Google Classroom and all other learning platforms for daily assignments and instruction. If a student is unable to attend a Zoom meeting or complete an assignment, either the student or parent/guardian will contact the classroom teacher.

Assessment & Grading:

Students will receive grades A-F to indicate their progress toward the learning standards. It is important that parents have access to the Aeries online portal. This is where teachers will be posting grades on each individual assignment and also show families what assignments have not been completed. Students and families are encouraged to check grades frequently.

Grading Categories:

Participation 40%

Classwork	25%
Assessments (essays and tests)	25%
Homework	10%

Late Work or Absent Work: Students should make every effort to get assignments turned in on time. During the first trimester of virtual learning, students will have up to one week to get their assignments turned in past the date due, with a ten percent grade reduction (one letter grade). **If a student is absent during virtual learning, they will have the same number of days they were absent to complete the necessary work. It is the students' responsibility to complete and turn in all absent work.**

In order for a student to be excused from daily participation, the parent/guardian needs to inform the teacher as soon as possible. In order to avoid the loss of daily participation points, the absence must meet the requirements for an excused absence by the school district.