

PLEASANT HILL VOCAL MUSIC STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK 2018-2019



Dear Parent/Guardian and Student,

What a great summer it has been. As my new norm, I am still battling this pesky leukemia but that's not going to stop me from being with my Billies!!! I am in need for parents to help out with fund raising and trip planning this year. I will be sending information home soon about a parent meeting later this fall. Please mark your calendars and join us that evening.

In this packet you will find important information regarding the music program including:

Class Expectations & Policies - Grading - Attire - Fundraising & Fees - Pleasant Hill Jazz Festival - Calendar

I am anticipating a great and successful year in the music program. Being involved with music at the high school level can be a big commitment, so I want to give you enough information to know what to expect.

Please note my contact information if you need to get in touch with me. It is a joy and privilege to teach your wonderful children and I am so happy to be here at Pleasant Hill!

Sincerely,

Kris Violette
PHHS Music Director
(541) 736-0425
Email: kviolette@pleasanthill.k12.or.us

Pleasant Hill High School Music

RESPECT, PARTICIPATION, AND

TEAMWORK

CLASS EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES

General Expectations:

Music classes are unique because the groups can only succeed to the degree that

everyone actively participates, works well with others, and gives their best efforts.

Be on time - on risers when bell rings

Come prepared - music folder, journal, pen

Stay on task - sing, listen, talk when appropriate

Show respect - property, equipment, students, teacher

Attendance

ABSENCES

Students who show a pattern of poor attendance will be put on probation and their position in the group will be in jeopardy. Poor attendance is defined as one unexcused absence or more per week. Students will lose points for unexcused absences.

Attendance at all rehearsals and concerts is mandatory. Grades will decrease by one full letter grade for each performance missed. Please contact the instructor for permission to be excused a minimum of 2 weeks in advance. It is then the instructor's decision whether the absence will be excused or unexcused. Excused events are very special occasions such as weddings, family reunions, etc. Unexcused absences include non-mandatory sporting events, having to work, minor illnesses or not being able to find a ride. Remember, employers must excuse school-related, extracurricular events.

If you have an unexcused absence, you will only be able to make up a portion (50%) of the points lost. Students who have an unexcused absence for a concert will have a conference with the instructor and their position in the group will be in jeopardy. An unexcused absence at a concert causes frustration, disappointment, and tension among the other group members. It is extremely important that every member is at the concert and does their part to help the group reach their potential. In cases of emergency (severe sudden illness or accident, etc), please call my office and leave a message or email me. I will respond as soon as possible and excuse the absence.

**If students have an unexcused absence from school (even just choir class) the day of the concert, they may not be allowed to perform that evening with their group. Skipping school on the day of a concert is unacceptable and unfair to the group.

TARDIES

If students are not in their seats prepared by the time the bell rings, they will be marked tardy. Repeated tardies will result in a conference with the teacher. Tardies interrupt the beginning of important class activities, such as warm-ups and announcements.

CELL PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cell phones and other electronic devices **WILL NOT** be allowed in class - visible or audible - without the permission of your teacher. Use of such equipment will result in the loss of ALL participation points for that day and confiscation of the item as stated in the PHS Handbook.

FIELD TRIPS

Throughout the year, music may travel to different performances and music festivals. It is expected that music members participate in the required festivals, which are considered field trips. These festivals/field trips are usually a day long. The festival dates are known and published in the fall (and updated regularly), so that students and parents can plan accordingly. It is expected that students attend field trips such as festivals in their entirety. Note: The calendar is subject to change due to unforeseen reasons.

Sometimes, our music groups are asked to perform at various community events representing our school throughout the year. These community service events may or may not be known in advance. Students will be notified as soon as possible of these additional events. If the number of students unable to participate in community performances compromises the quality of the group's performance, the event will be canceled. It is very important that student's commitments be made by the deadline established by the instructor.

EXTENDED FIELD TRIPS (High School Only)

Extended field trips are those trips which require a fee to be paid and/or stay the night(s) out of town. It is expected that music members participate in these types of required festivals. The required dates and cost of the festival are published in advance. A letter will be sent to all participating students notifying parent(s)/guardian(s) of the dates students will be missing school and the approximate cost of the trip. The letter **MUST** be signed and returned within two weeks of receiving by a parent(s) or guardian(s). ONCE THE SIGNED LETTER IS RECEIVED, STUDENTS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS RELATED TO THE EXTENDED FIELD TRIP. If the letter is not received within two weeks, students may not be able to attend the extended field trip.

JAZZ FESTIVAL

The Pleasant Hill Jazz Festival (PHJF) is a HUGE fund raiser that helps keep the Pleasant Hill Music Department alive. With the declining enrollment in the Pleasant Hill School District, it has become more challenging to fill the volunteer positions the day of the festival. We request that all parents and families volunteer the day of the festival.

The PHJF is April 20th this year with set-up on the two previous days. There are positions to fill on the steering committee each year. This memorable event is one all should reach out and experience. Those parents who volunteer on the steering committee will be compensated in some form or another which will be established during the first steering committee meeting fall 2018.

Be aware that a volunteer will be contacting you the month prior to the festival for your assistance in filling a 2-4 hour volunteer position. Once you experience this festival, you'll understand why people talk about this jazz festival for years to come!

ATTIRE

Performances are the ultimate goal of music! Students are expected to wear the correct attire to every performance, as specified by the director. Students may be denied participation in a performance (and lose points) if not in correct attire. Information will be sent home at the beginning of the school year regarding outfits.

FOOD & BEVERAGES

Food of any kind or beverages will not be permitted during class time. The only acceptable beverage container is water in a clear container with a twistable lid.

GRADING

Students receive points for daily participation and effort in class, tests, and concerts and other performances throughout each term.

REQUIRED

Daily punctuality and participation	10 points per day
Punctuation (2)	
No Gum (1)	
Prepared (2)	
Participation & Effort (5)	
▪ correct posture	
▪ tone production	
▪ dynamics	
▪ blend	
▪ focused and on task	
▪ active participation in all classroom activities	
Concerts and festivals of 100 points per event	minimum

Tests/Assessments
values

Various point

Era Presentations

To be established in rubric

EXTRA CREDIT

Private lessons
per term 15 points

Attending out-of-school concert
- written review and program required 20 points

Participation in camp or honor group
- Jazz Camps, All-State Groups 30 points

Perform National Anthem for school event 5 points

DIRECTORS EVALUATION

Although intangibles such as attitude cannot be graded, students need to remember that negative attitudes and disrespectful behavior hurts the group and causes distraction for other students. Repeated tardies or absences, lack of preparation, excessive talking, distracting behavior, and disrespect towards director, students, or facility will result in a conference with the director. If the behavior continues, school administration and parents will be notified and plan the next step together.

FUNDRAISING & FEES (Mostly High School Students)

Fund Raisers have always been a challenge. There will be a few planned by the music department this year. If a parent or student would like to lead a fund raiser, please contact me for further instructions.

Students will be given notice if there are other fundraising efforts throughout the year, such as performances at community events. Parent help will be expected at fund raisers.

Student fees may include (but are not limited to):

- outfits/shirts
- music folders
- food/snacks on trips
- lost or damaged music
- extended festival trips

CALENDAR

Note that all events/times are subject to change. The following dates are concert, Pleasant Hill Jazz Festival and a few other required performances. A more detailed schedule will be available and sent home as dates are added and finalized.

Friday, November 9th: Veteran's Day Assembly in the High school Gym during school

High School Groups Performing only

Tuesday, December 4th: Roaring Rapids Fund Raiser at Roaring Rapids Variations, Chansonaires and Ascensions Performs

Wednesday, December 19th: Winter Band Program

Thursday, December 20th: Winter Choral Program at PHHS in Evening. Detail soon.

All Choirs Perform!