

# Creekside Middle School



# Orchestra Handbook

(Information Form due by Aug. 22)

# Welcome to the Middle School Orchestra Program at Creekside!

This handbook will provide you with everything you need to know to have a positive and successful experience in orchestra this year. Please use this handbook as a reference throughout the school year. Your child will need to turn in the last page of the handbook by August, 22nd.

## ORCHESTRA ENSEMBLES

### 6<sup>th</sup> /7<sup>th</sup> /8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra

In middle school, students have orchestra daily\*. In addition to our daily rehearsal, students are excused from one class a week on a rotating schedule for sectionals (lessons by instrument). We will have 4 orchestra concerts this year in addition to our annual Solo and Ensemble event, and field trips. The dates for those concerts can be found below.

\* Students that are in chorus and orchestra will follow this schedule:  
 Monday/Thursday- Orchestra days  
 Tuesday/Friday- Chorus days  
 Wednesday's rotate every week- Signs are posted to help students

### Creekside Chamber Orchestra Club (C.C.O.C)

The Creekside Chamber Orchestra meets weekly on Tuesday mornings before school at 7:30 A.M. in the orchestra room. The group is open to hard working students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students will learn 2-3 additional popular pieces to play at each of our concerts. Rehearsals will start on Tuesday, August 30th.

### Concert Dates

(Please know that dates COULD change in the event of bad weather or scheduling conflicts)

Day	Date	Time	Activity	Location
Tuesday	10/25/16	7:00 PM	CMS MS Orchestra Concert #1	Creekside Stage
Thursday	12/1/16	7:30 PM	Holiday Concert combined with WHS Orchestra	WHS
Thursday	3/21/17	7:00 PM	CMS MS Orchestra Concert #3	Creekside Stage
Monday	5/1/17	6 PM	Festival Concert	WHS
Monday	5/15/17	7PM	8th Grade Awards/Performance	WHS Orchestra Room and Stage

### Optional Events

Day	Date	Time	Activity	Location
ILMEA Auditions	9/29/16	Sometime between 4-8:30	Optional Auditions for the prestigious ILMEA Junior Orchestra. If students are accepted, their attendance is required on Nov. 5 from 8-4.	London M.S. in Wheeling, IL
Solo and Ensemble	2/15/17	Assigned times between 4:00-8:30	Performances of solos and small ensembles for a rating and comments.	Creekside M.S.
6-8th Field Trip	TBA	8:45-2:45	Chicago Symphony Concert	Chicago

## **Extra Credit**

Students interested in earning extra credit may attend any band/orchestra/chorus concert for 10 total extra credit points a semester. They need to turn in a signed program (by a guardian/parent) within 2 weeks of the performance.

## **Class Expectations**

Each class will work together to create their own classroom expectations and goals. However, I expect the following from students:

1. Be present and on time to each class.
2. Be willing to listen, participate, cooperate, and learn.
3. Demonstrate respect for self, others, and property.
4. Act in a safe manner for self and others.
5. Demonstrate a positive attitude.
6. Accept responsibility for one's actions and learning.
7. Follow the building, team and classroom behavior plans and matrices.
8. Have your instrument, music, and pencil at each class.

## **Concert Attire and T-shirt Information**

Students are asked to wear a formal white top and black pants/bottoms (including shoes) to each concert except the Festival concert in May. Students are asked to wear their purchased CMS Orchestra T-shirt for the final Festival concert, field trips, and our orchestra picture day. ***T-shirts are \$8***. Parents and family members are welcome to purchase one, too. On the course form at the end of this packet, please indicate what size(s) you would like ordered for your child/family and include cash or a check (made out to "Creskide Middle School").

## **Music**

**Students will need a 3 ring binder** to keep the beginning of the year for him/her to keep the music I hand out in. One time this year your student might receive a note stating that their class is ready for the next method book. Music and Arts provides these books to me for my students at a discounted price (typically around \$7). Students can buy the book through the school or on their own.

## **Practice Quizzes**

Students will usually have almost weekly practice quizzes that they should be preparing for at home during the week. These quizzes are placed in of practice records as my goal for each student is to understand and understand practice that is of **QUALITY vs. QUANTITY**.

## **Concert Attendance**

Orchestra students are required to attend all performances scheduled for their ensemble. Each concert is worth 30 points. Homework, babysitting, not having a ride, etc. are not acceptable excuses for missing a performance so please **PLAN AHEAD!** If a conflict results from another school activity, you **must let me know at least two weeks in advance** so we can work something out. As mentioned, concerts are worth 30 points and the points can only be made up if it is an excused absence (illness or a death in the family) accompanied by a written note from a parent or guardian. You will be required to complete a make up assignment as a result of any excused absence in a time frame agreed upon between your child and myself.

## Grades

Your grade will be determined as follows:

### 40% Participation

You can earn 1 point for each day of class. To earn that point, you must be on time, have all of your equipment (music, pencil, handouts), and participate appropriately. Failure to meet these expectations will result in the loss of point(s) and other disciplinary action. Though you earn one point, you can lose more than one point per day.

### 30% Classwork

All points earned from quizzes and assignments such as theory worksheets and playing quizzes will be averaged to come up with a single grade at the end of the quarter.

### 30% Performance

To get an A for an individual concert you must be on time, be properly attired, behave appropriately throughout the concert, and fulfill post concert responsibilities. A student's grade for the concert will be lowered one level for each infraction. An unexcused absence results in a "0" for that concert. An excused absence from a concert must be made up in order to receive a grade, failure to do so results in a "0" for the concert. For the purpose of grading and attendance, required rehearsals outside of the school day or off campus will be treated as performances.

## District 200 Music Boosters

The D200 Music Boosters are our music parent organization. Their activities include organizing fundraising events, obtaining extra equipment, purchasing contest medals, providing summer music camp scholarships, and various other activities. Membership contributions to the D200 Music Boosters are accepted throughout the school year. Any parent interested in working with the D200 Music Boosters and helping the Creekside Middle School music program are encouraged to check the box on the form at the end of this packet. If you wish to join the boosters or donate to the program, a separate form will be sent home with this packet where you can sign-up and donate.

## Contact Information

[Lbastian@wcusd200.org](mailto:Lbastian@wcusd200.org)

CMS Orchestra Room 815-337-5255

\*\*Please note that I will be teaching at WHS during 9th period every day. Email is the fastest way to reach me.

## Course Agreement Form

The course agreement form is due by **Monday, August 22nd, 2016**. It will act as the students first assignment and count for 5 points of their grade. A .5 point will be taken off for each day it is late.

**Please be sure to keep your copy of the calendar of events for future reference.**

Thanks!

Lyndra Bastian

Please fill out the below information so I can add you to the orchestra email list and contact you when needed.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

	Parent/Guardian #1	Parent/Guardian #2
Name:		
Email Address:		
Phone Number:		
Cell Phone:		

**Check all that apply:**

- I have attached \$8 cash or a check (made out to D200) for my child's orchestra t-shirt.
- I have purchased a 3 ringed binder for my child's orchestra music and sent it to school with them
- My child would like to join CCOC and will be at the 1<sup>st</sup> rehearsal on Tuesday, Aug. 30th (7:30 am)
- I would be willing to volunteer during the year at concerts and other events.

**T-Shirt Info** – Please circle the size(s) your child (and others) would like ordered

- |           |           |            |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <b>YS</b> | <b>AS</b> | <b>AXL</b> |
| <b>YM</b> | <b>AM</b> | <b>2XL</b> |
| <b>YL</b> | <b>AL</b> |            |

Parent Signature	Student Signature	Date

By Signing below, you are agreeing to abide by the information as stated in the Creekside Middle School Orchestra Handbook 2016-17.

This sheet is to be completed and returned by **August 22, 2016.**