

Southwestern Middle School

WILDCATS



**General Music Handbook
2024-2025**

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 music 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.

- **Chromebook/Computer – Provided by the school**
- **Tabbed notebook dividers – Provided by the school**
- **1 inch 3-Ring Binder – Provided by the student**
- **1 Mechanical Pencil – Provided by the student**

WHAT ARE THE DAILY PROCEDURES?

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.

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

1. Come to class with all the appropriate materials
2. Before you are seated, get your general music textbook and notebook 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.

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.
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. Chromebooks are 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:

- CLASSWORK AND HOMEWORK - 30%
- TESTS - 30%
- PARTICIPATION GRADE - 20%
- CLASS NOTEBOOK (1 inch 3-Ring Binder) - 20%
(Notebooks will be checked 2 times during each grading period.)
- LATE WORK: Follows the grade level late work policy

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.

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. Unit tests will make up **30%** of the grade.

CLASS PREPAREDNESS and Participation:

Everyone will have the same opportunity to earn extra participation points for outstanding accomplishments in the classroom...sometimes over 100%. Participating in class includes:

- Bringing the required class materials everyday
 - Chromebook/Computer
 - Class 3-Ring Binder with tabbed dividers and lined paper
 - Mechanical Pencil
- Contributing positively to the learning environment by paying attention and answering questions.
- Volunteering to read aloud in class.

CLASS NOTEBOOK: To ensure that everyone in the class is developing their organization skills, **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.** The teacher will collect class notebooks two times each grading period and grade any non-computer-based class assignments. Notebooks are graded on organization within each tab. All paper/pencil assignments and Tests **MUST** be kept in the class notebook. The notebook grade will make up **20%** of the class grade.

General Music “Handbook Confirmation Form”

All Class Materials Due by Friday - August 23, 2024

All students need the following **required** class materials for General Music.

- Chromebook/Computer – Provided by the school
- Tabbed notebook dividers – Provided by the school
- 1 inch 3-Ring Binder – Provided by the student
- 1 Mechanical Pencil – Provided by the student

IMPORTANT:

Please sign below to indicate both parents and student have read and understand the Southwestern General Music Handbook and its classroom policies and expectations. **Please return (*this paper only*) to your teacher by Friday August 23, 2024.** If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mr. Eisan by email or phone using the information below.

X _____
Parent/ Guardian Signature

Date

X _____
Student Signature

Date

Mr. Tom Eisan
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