



# **Bowie Fine Arts Piano Syllabus and Expectations**

Welcome to Piano! Please read the following procedures carefully. It is a good idea to keep this paper handy for future reference.

## **Classroom Expectations**

- Be Safe
- Be Polite
- Be Cooperative
- Be Responsible
- Be Kind

## **Consequences**

Your teachers work hard to create a safe learning environment for all students. We have so much to learn this year. In order to keep the class running efficiently, we expect you to follow our class guidelines and stay with the lesson at all times. If you struggle to remain on task, the following outlines how we handle disruptions or off-task behaviors.

- 1st offense: The teacher will remind you of the expectations
- 2nd offense: redirected, teacher-student conversation, and possibly removed from the situation
- 3rd offense: parent contact + lunch detention
- 4th offense: office referral

\*Extreme behaviors such as violence and physical fighting will result in automatic office referral and parent contact with no warning.

## **Homework**

Students are always welcome to ask for copies of their pieces to practice at home throughout the year. There is a music stand in my room for that purpose; students write their name on a sticky note and place it on the page that they would like copied. I will return it within one to two class periods.

## **Grading Procedures**

Kindergarten

- Students are graded based on participation scale and skills checks. One grade will be given after consideration from all 5 Fine Arts teachers.

1st-2nd

- Grades will be based on a participation scale, with an emphasis on the skills practiced and learned in class. Each Fine Arts class will issue one grade per six-week grading period.

3rd

- Grades will be given by the assigned fine arts teacher for that grading period's rotation

4th-6th

- Minor Grades 40% (skills checks, daily assignments)
  - Major Grades 60% (performances and projects)
- \*\*Grades will be given once a week and could include testing on a skill learned in class or a check for progress for performance.\*\*



## **Daily Supplies**

Students will bring their Chromebooks for their daily sightreading, and reminders will be given when Chromebooks are necessary for the lesson.

## **Class Dojo - Parents**

We use Class Dojo as our school-wide and grade-level communication tool. We send mass messages frequently. It is important that you have the app, are connected, and notifications turned on so that you do not miss important information.

## **Content Objectives**

In piano class, students will explore and create while learning a solid musical foundation. Our curriculum focuses on applied musical skills that we build on each year, from Kindergarten through 6th grade. Each year, students revisit core concepts with increasing depth and independence as they grow in confidence and creativity.

Through a variety of classroom activities, including singing and musical games, performing simple to complex piano pieces, and experimenting with repeated rhythms and created rhythms, students will:

- Develop a sense of rhythm and beat by moving to music
- Create musical patterns, rhythms, and melodies
- Work collaboratively in an ensemble
- Build understanding of music notation and vocabulary
- Reflect on their own performances as well as those of others

## **After School Rehearsals**

After-school rehearsals will be exclusive to students who are participating in the TFMC Festival in the spring (4-6th grades). Rehearsals for our class performances will be conducted in class exclusively. Calendars for after-school rehearsals will be sent out on ClassDojo at the beginning of the spring semester.

## **Performances**

All classes will be required to participate in their class performance as part of our Fine Arts contract. Students are graded on attendance at each of their scheduled performances. An absence for performance will result in an alternative assignment to be completed one week following the performance missed.