

DESERT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND PROGRAM

To: Parents and Students
From: Ron Pasma, Director of Bands
Re: **SYLLABUS** for Band Schedule and Expectations
Date: August 30th, 2011

This is a letter to inform you of the involvement your son or daughter has with the Desert Hills Middle School Band Program. The following is information about the program and a contract of commitment between the student, parent, and teacher. Please read this with your child, sign it, and return it as soon as possible. I am delighted at the enthusiasm and talent we have in our school. If your child finds that this is too great a commitment or if you are not signed up for band and would still like to, please contact me by **E-mail: ron.pasma@ksd.org** or **Phone: 222-6094**.

- 1 **ATTENDANCE:** I expect the students to be in class for each group rehearsal and concert. If this is not possible, I need to have a written slip with the reason for absence (concert) at **least two weeks in advance** to be excused and for other arrangements to be made for grade credit.
- 2 **EQUIPMENT:** Your child should have his/her instrument (in good working order), band folder (provided by school) with method book, sheet music, and a SHARPENED PENCIL!!!
- 3 **BOOKS:** **6th Grade Band:** ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS 2000 Book 1(play=4th day of school)
 1. & Standard of Excellence Music Theory and History Workbook Book 1
 - ii. **7th Grade Band:** ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS 2000 Book 2(play=2nd day of school)
 - iii. **8th Grade Band:** ESSENTIAL TECHNIQUES 2000 book 3(play=2nd day of school)
- 4 **SUPPLIES:**
 - a. **Flutes** – Original Swab, cleaning rod, small cloth.
 - b. **Clarinets** – Original Swab, cork grease, 3-4 good reeds (6th grade: size 1½,
 - c. 7th grade: size 2, 8th grade: size 2½), mouthpiece cover and polish cloth.
 - d. **Saxophones** – Original Swab, cork grease, 3-4 good reeds
 - e. (6th grade: size 1½, 7th grade: size 2, 8th grade: size 2½), mouthpiece cover and polish cloth.
 - f. **Trombone** – Original Swab, slide cream, slide oil or spray bottle, tuning slide grease, mouthpiece brush and polish cloth.
 - g. **Trumpets & Other Brass** – Original Swab, valve oil, tuning slide grease, mouthpiece brush and polish cloth.
 - h. **ALL INSTRUMENTS** - Cleaning (Polish) Cloth and Pencil
- 5 **PRACTICE:** **You are required to turn in a monthly practice calendar that is graded at the end of each month.** It is extremely important that every student practice consistently. The students have made a commitment to practice 15-20 minutes a day, 5 days a week. Like a new present, the newness will wear off, so it is important to thoughtfully encourage your child to practice on a daily basis. Make three days per week, fifteen minutes a day be your minimum. Each student will be required to turn in monthly practice sheets as a part of their grade. **My expectations are: that you come in after the last bell and take your instrument home to practice and KSD does not have insurance to cover your potential loss.**
- 6 **THEORY BOOKS (6th Grade):** Our *Standard of Excellence Music Theory & History Workbooks* will be worked on weekly. They are collected and graded. If your son/daughter loses or does not receive this it is their responsibility to provide one. It is important that the students learn general music theory so that they may apply it in their playing.

- 7 **CONCERT ATTIRE: A Navy Polo Band Shirt**, make checks out to Desert Hills-PTO for \$17.00. Also, please wear Khaki pants (or girls can wear a Khaki skirt, knee length). If a student is unable to purchase the polo shirt, please see Mr. Pasma ASAP. Occasionally, we have previously owned shirts returned to us in excellent condition that we can sell for \$12.00 each. Make checks out to Desert Hills PTO.
- 8 **CONCERTS:** If a student has a Family Emergency, just write me a note and give it to me when you return to school. Then you need to make up that concert by doing one of the following:
- Play the four songs at home for Mom or Dad then have them email me that it's complete
 - Write a one page report about your family

After each Concert we will have the band President direct the band and play the four songs again from the last night's concert and then hand them in or after each concert, the following two days (6th, 7th and 8th) we possibly will have a Music Appreciation Day which means you may watch a "G" rated movie or read a book or do homework. You may bring a soda and snack from home to drink and eat. **Anyone who has missed the concert will NOT be allowed to participate in this unless it is pre-approved.**

- 9 Daily participation points equal 5 points. Failing to do #1 - #9 can have the student result in choosing Step 1, 2, 3 or 4. 8th graders that choose Step 1 on a weekly basis will not be allowed to go on Band trips. After an 8th grader gets Strike 3, they will not be going on any Band trips and will sit in the buddy room on the Band trip days.
- 10 **CHALLENGES:** you must give the student three days notice (Monday=Wednesday Challenge or Friday=Monday challenge as an example), and if a student has been absent, they have 24 hrs after returning to school to do the challenge. Challenges stop two weeks before a concert. **All four Concerts start at 6p.m. and are in our Desert Hills Gymnasium.** The four concerts are: **Thur. Oct. 13th, Wed. Dec. 7th, Thur. Feb. 23rd, Wed. May 23rd.** **The first 6th grade concert is: Thur. Feb. 23rd.**
- 11 We **offer two honor band classes** after school from 2:30-3pm. **Any 6th grader** who took summer band camp or is excelling on their instrument is welcome to join us on Monday's from 2:30-3p.m. **Any 7th grader** who took honor band last year or is excelling on their instrument, may join us on Tuesday's from 2:30-3p.m. We work on the sheet music for the 7th grade or 8th grade band and then you play in those four concerts mentioned above. There generally are 5-8 students in each honor band class on Monday's and Tuesday's.

DHMS Buddy Room Policy/Ron Pasma

When a student chooses step 4, they will end up in the Buddy Room.

That student will stay in the Buddy Room until their Parent arrives for the Step 4 conference.

If the student continues to be disruptive when they report to the Buddy Room, the student qualifies for an automatic Step 5 and he/she will be taken immediately to an administrator. Contact home will be made by the administrator. **Occasionally, we will have a Music Appreciation Day, after a concert, if you choose step 1 during that class period, you qualify for being there all 45 minutes.**

Also, such student is receiving a zero in band class for that class period.

Thank you, *Ron Pasma*

DESERT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

****BAND GRADES****

At the end of each quarter, a percentage will be determined by adding up all the possible points. The following is a description of the point breakdown. Please take note of this before the end of the quarter. Grade points are different than MYD points.

ALL CONCERT PERFORMANCES

250 points each (minimum)

Please notify me **at least two weeks** prior to the performance in order for it to be excused. If I excuse it, you will write a report (250 words) or play the songs for your parents and send in a note for make-up work. **Unexcused absences will affect your grade and cannot be made up. Not getting a ride to a concert, I forgot, I wasn't feeling well, but show up for school the next day, etc... will not work.** Also, extra credit **can not** be used to make up a concert.

DAILY POINT SYSTEM

5 points will be given each day for participation.

Daily offenses will include: talking, rubber band, gum, no pencil, no instrument, tardy, no sheet music, unexcused absence, wearing a hat or hood, playing on the drums, piano, leaving your seat, bad posture, no Method Book, playing without permission, not participating, choosing steps, electronic devices, etc...

The first three steps will be handled in the classroom. Students that choose steps on a weekly basis will not be going on Band trips.

Step 4 will result in the office and parent being notified for an immediate step 4 conference.

Step 5 will qualify you for an automatic possible suspension.

PERIODICAL POINTS

100 points each month for practice calendar sheets
100 points each month for Theory workbooks (6th Grade)
100 points for playing tests
250 points each performance

PERCENTAGE SCALE

90 - 100 = A

80 - 89 = B

70 - 79 = C

60 - 69 = D

59--F

Desert Hills Band

Concert Schedule 2011-2012

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>GROUP</u>
Oct. 13 th	6:00pm	Fall Concert	DHMS Gymnasium	7 th , 8 th , Jazz I & II
Oct. 21 st	1,2,3,4 & 7th	Band Jog-A-Thon	DHMS Track	6 th , 7 th , 8 th
Dec. 7 th	6 pm	Holiday Concert	DHMS Gymnasium	7 th , 8th, jazz I & II
Feb 8 th	1:30 – 3:30	Solo & Ensemble Recital	DHMS Band Room	private lesson students
Feb. 9 th	6:30pm	Festival Concert	Kamiakin HS Auditorium	8 th , KaHS Wind Ens.
Feb. 11 th	All Day	Solo & Ensemble Contest	McLoughlin MS/Pasco	various students
Feb. 23 rd	6:00pm	Winter Concert	DHMS Gymnasium	6 th , 7 th Jazz I & II.
March 1 st	All Day	Elementary Tour	Sunset View & Ridgeview & Cottonwood	8 th & Jazz I
Mar. 28 th	All day	Large Group Contest	Southridge HS Aud.	8 th
Apr 14 th	7 – 11 am	CBC Jazz Unlimited	Columbia Basin College	Jazz I & II
May 23 rd	6:00pm	Spring Concert	Desert Hills Gymnasium	6 th , 7 th , 8 th Jazz I & II

Keep this portion for your records!

Please note:

These dates may change due to unexpected school happenings!

Please watch for updated notices throughout the school year!

Thank you.

Yes, I, _____ (Parent signature) understand the

concert (s) are a big portion of my _____ (print student name) _____ class hr

know that concerts cannot be made up and will write a 250 word report on my family such as:

Dad, Mom name, work, hobbies, brothers sisters, pets.etc....



2011-2012
BAND & CONCERT EXPECTATIONS,
GRADING SYSTEM and BUDDY ROOM POLICY

Due by 9/18/11 for 100 points.

We have read and understand the **Class & Concert Expectations**, **Grading System**, and **Buddy Room Policy** and agree to abide by them.

Student Signature _____ Class Hour _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

~~ Student Information ~~

Student Name (print): _____

Home Address: _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____ School Year: _____

Instrument: _____ **Serial #:** _____

Student lives with: Both parents Mother Father Other (_____)

Father: _____ Mother: _____

Work #: _____ Work #: _____

Cell #: _____ Cell #: _____

E-mail: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Please print very nicely as it is hard to read some e-mails.

Notes/other info:
