

## Homedale Middle School Beginning Band

Mr. Zieske

### Welcome to Beginning Band!

This class teaches you the skills needed to read and perform music on brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. There are many fundamentals covered in this class including: characteristic tone quality, intonation, music vocabulary, theory, history, and more.

### Materials Needed at Every Rehearsal:

- Pencils
- Band binder
- Accent on Achievement Book 1
- Instrument and supplies (reeds, valve oil, cork grease, mallets, etc.)

### Grading System:

Playing Tests and Quizzes	40%
Daily participation and preparedness	30%
Class assignments	20%
Concert attendance	10%

### Playing Tests and Quizzes:

Playing tests are a way to hear each student individually to ensure they are playing with proper technique and progressing at an appropriate speed. Students perform playing tests in class or record themselves in another room. Playing tests can *always* be made up if a student is unhappy with the way they played.

Quizzes cover music theory, vocabulary, and history. Most quizzes are written tests, and students can *always* retake a quiz if they are unhappy with their score.

### Daily participation and preparedness:

Learning to play an instrument can be difficult at times. In order to succeed, students must always try their best in class and play their instrument throughout the entire rehearsal. Students are also expected to bring a pencil, binder, book, and instrument to every class. If a student isn't prepared, they will lose up to 25% of that week's preparedness grade. Students without an instrument will be given an alternative assignment to complete for that day.

### Class Assignments:

Class assignments cover instrument basics, music theory, vocabulary, and history. Most assignments are written, and students can *always* remake them if they are unhappy with their score.

**Concerts:**

There are two after-school concerts during the 2016-2017 school year:

-Holiday Concert: December 8, 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm (**call time 5:30**), High School Gym

-Pops Concert: May 11, 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm (**call time 5:30**), High School Gym

Students are expected to attend all concerts, and performances are 10% of the grade. If you have a scheduling conflict, please contact Mr. Zieske as soon as possible to find a solution. Sports and other school events approved by Mr. Zieske are usually acceptable reasons for missing a concert as long as you give prior notice of the situation.

Additional opportunities for performing are given throughout the semester. Details about the solo and ensemble festival, in-class recitals, the school talent show, and other events will be sent home and posted on the music department website.

**What to Wear to a Concert:**

Boys: white shirt, black dress pants, black socks, black shoes (ties optional)

Girls: white shirt/blouse, black pants/skirt (skirt must be full length), black shoes

**Instrument Rental:**

If you do not own an instrument, you may rent one or buy one from a music store in the area (Dunkley’s Music in Nampa, Dorsey Music in Nampa, American Music in Caldwell, Greif’s Music in Ontario, and others). If you cannot acquire an instrument from a local store, you may use one from the school for free. There are a limited number of available school instruments, so students borrowing from the school may not be able to play their first choice of instrument. Students are expected to pay for repairs of their instrument that are not caused by normal, everyday use.

Mr. John Zieske

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Website: **www.homedalemusicdepartment.weebly.com**

Facebook page: **www.facebook.com/homedalemusic**

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I have read and understand the class syllabus.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_