

## Homedale High School Jazz Band

Mr. Zieske

### **Welcome to High School Jazz Band!**

This class teaches you the skills needed to perform in the jazz idiom on brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. There are many fundamentals covered in this class including: rock and Latin musical styles, jazz theory, jazz history, and improvisation.

### **Materials Needed:**

- Pencils
- Music folder
- Notebook paper
- 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:**

Students are expected to participate throughout the entire rehearsal and 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 instrumental technique, 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 five after-school performances during the 2016-2017 school year (The Not-So Silent Movie: October 20, Holiday Concert: December 8, Spring Concert: March 23, Pops Concert: May 11, High School Graduation: May 22). 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.

Students also perform at events *during* the school day (such as the Veterans Day assembly and elementary school concert). Additional opportunities for performing are given throughout the semester. Details about the solo and ensemble festival, honor bands, 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

**Pep Band:**

High school students in jazz band also play at home football and basketball games (this is optional for middle school students). Exceptions can be made for students in sports or other activities approved by Mr. Zieske.

**Marching Band and Color Guard:**

All students in jazz band have the opportunity to be in the school's marching band. Practices are after school on Tuesdays (4:00 pm - 6:00 pm) and Fridays (9:00 am - 12:00 pm). The marching season ends in mid-October, and students perform at all home football games and four or five Saturday competitions.

**Instrument Rental:**

If you do not own an instrument, you may rent one or buy one from a music store in the area. 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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Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/homedalemusic](http://www.facebook.com/homedalemusic)

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I have read and understand the class syllabus.

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

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