

Homer High School

2016-2017

Course Title: Jazz Band

Instructor: Mrs. Amy Johnson

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PowerSchool Page: <http://ps.kpbsd.org/public>

Duration: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Course Description: Students will develop skills on various musical instruments, with the final results being various performances throughout the school year. Students will increase technical facility on instruments, as well as further developing expressive qualities. Students will focus on jazz, swing, Latin, and other styles of music. Concurrent enrollment in Symphonic Band is REQUIRED unless student meets the necessary criteria for exemption. See Mrs. Johnson if you have any questions.

Texts and Resources to be used:

Music Provided in Class (Pep Band, Jazz)

Band Blog – <http://e10375.blogs.kpbsd.k12.ak.us>

Supplementary Materials:

Websites for aural examples: <http://www.jwpepper.com>

<http://www.youtube.com>

Scheduled topics:

Pep Band Music

Scales and Chorales

Concert Music

Semester 1 Performances:

Sept. 10 – Pep Band (FB)

Sept. 24 – Pep Band (FB)

Oct. 12 – Fall Concert

Dec. 19 – Winter Concert

Semester 2 Performances:

Pep Band for BB to be determined

Mar. 7 – Music in the Schools Concert

Apr. 13 – Regional Solo and Ensemble

Apr. 24 – Spring Concert

May 16 – POPS Concert

(Please be aware, it is unlikely but these dates may change. Information will be sent home via email and paper handout.)

Supplies Needed:

Instrument: If a student is unable to provide their own instrument, one may be provided by the school if available for a \$50 rental fee. Percussionists must provide their own snare

drum sticks, bells/xylophone mallets and yarn mallets or pay a \$20/year fee to cover the cost of replacement.

Pencil (not pen): Students will need a pencil to properly mark music, make rehearsal notes, etc. Pen is not acceptable.

Fingering/Position Chart: This may be found in the back of the method book, but can also be found on the internet.

Optional:

Tuner/Metronome: Tuners and metronomes help greatly with at-home practice, allowing students to develop aural listening skills and make sure that they are keeping steady tempi when they practice. Free apps are available for this purpose.

Grading Procedures:

Your final grade will be based on the following:

50% Exams and Performances

25% Preparation and Performance of Skills

25% Other Assignments (Playing Tests, Written Work, etc.)

Grading Scale for assignments:

90-100% - Superior Understanding and Performance of Curriculum

80-89% - Advanced Comprehension and Performance of Concepts

74-79% - Proficient Comprehension and Performance of Concepts

70-73% - Basic Comprehension and Performance of Concepts

Below 70% - Unsatisfactory (No Credit Earned)

- Students will be given a Weekly Skills Performance Grade of 5 points. Students are graded on if they are performing the skills necessary to succeed in this class, such as:
 - performing the music (and improving upon performances from week to week)
 - marking music (so as to cut down on repetitions of the same information)
 - being prepared – students are unable to demonstrate the improvement of skills without their music or instrument!
- At times, students will be given individual practice time. This is a good time to ask individual questions and practice new parts. However, students are still expected to practice outside of the classroom to master the music.

***Available Help:** I am available during some FOLs and some days after school. Please make arrangements with me for any additional help.

Late Work/Make-up Policy:

- Late work will lose 5% per day that it is late (weekends not inclusive).
- All concerts are mandatory. For an absence to be excused, I must have a written note one (1) week in advance from a parent. If that condition is not met, the absence will be unexcused, and can receive a maximum of 80% on the makeup.

For any other questions, please reference the Handbook!