***BMS INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC***

***2014-2015***

***BMS Music Department***

**Jason Snyder: 5th-8th Grade Band & Jazz Ensemble** [**(jasnyder@shsd.org)**](mailto:jasnyder@shsd.org)

**Joseph Espineira: Orchestra**

[**(jespineira@shsd.org)**](mailto:jespineira@shsd.org)

**\* Please contact our staff via email \***

**RENTAL INSTRUMENTS**

Any and all questions regarding instrument rentals, rental repairs, accessories & supplies,

upgrades or exchanges should be directed to

**City Music Center (NEMC)** at (908) 245-7122

or **The Music Shop at** (800) 533-0633.

***After-School Ensemble meeting times!***

***Orchestra*** *will meet after school on*

*Wednesdays and* ***Jazz Ensemble*** *will meet after school on Thursdays, both from 2:50-3:50.*

*Permission forms must be completed in order to participate.*

*Permission slips for Jazz Ensemble are available from Mr. Snyder and Orchestra forms are available from Mr. Espineira.*

***BMS Concert Schedule***

**Instrumental Dress Rehearsal:** 12/10 (4:30-

7:30 PAC)

**Instrumental Winter Concert:** 12/11 (7:00

PAC)

**Instrumental Dress Rehearsal:** 5/18 (4:30-

7:30 PAC)

**Instrumental Spring Concert:** 5/19 (7:00

PAC)

**Philosophy and Goals**

Band and Choir are required music courses for

Grade 5 and are elective music courses for Grades

6-8. Jazz Ensemble and Orchestra are after-school activities. Attention is given to developing individ- ual proficiency and expanding the student’s reper- toire of musical competence from beginning to more advanced levels. More advanced reading of musical notation is taught along with higher techni- cal skills and performance requirements. As the more advanced musical styles are introduced, stu- dents apply problem-solving skills to the interpreta- tion of music. Students receive one ensemble class every other day (A/B Schedule). As with all musical programs, students are strongly encouraged to develop their personal skills and proficiencies through independent practice at home.Self-reliance and responsibility to the group are important outcomes of participation in the program.

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| ***Homework (Practice) Guidelines***  Daily practice is essential for musical progress. All students are expected to be able to perform the weekly assigned music selections by the following lesson. Each student must do his/her part in preparing for the next class. Each student should practice as much as necessary to perform the assignment at a superior level. Practice times will be varied due to individual abilities. ***All members are to strive for a superior level of excellence in their performance at all times!*** Students should practice at least 90 minutes each week, but  more may be necessary to gain full understanding of the class goals. To begin a successful practice session, students should find a quiet place to rehearse. Then they need to set the goal for their time. “What do I need to accomplish this week?” Once the goals are set, students should begin to warm-up. The warm-up should be nice and easy, beginning with the lower notes and slowly progressing comfortably upward. Start with slow rhythms and then continue to faster ones. (Students may also want to play through a familiar song). Students are then ready to begin to work on new material. They should read through the selection without stopping and then isolate any mistakes. Practice the difficult part of the music slowly until it can be played correctly at least three times in a row. After fixing it, add that section back to the song. Students should be a stern critic so they can improve. Make sure students know that notes, rhythms, counting and articulations should always have a pleasing quality throughout their practice time. Each time the music is performed, it should be done in the same manner as if giving a concert performance. When finished, students should evaluate their practice session. They should mark the sections with a pencil that still needs work. If extra practice time is needed to perform the music assignment well, then it should be added.  ***The quality needs to go in before the sound comes out!*** | | |
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| **WHAT TO BRING**  Each music student will be expected to have appropriate supplies for their classes. Examples from the ensembles are:  Pencil Instrument Music Folder  Lesson/Method Book  Homework Planner  Reeds  Valve Oil Shoulder rest Rosin  ...and of course to be productive, a  **Positive Attitude!** |  | **Concert Performance Attire**  Students are asked to dress appropriately on the night of the concert.  **Black bottoms and white tops.** Boys are asked to wear dress pants, dress shirt, tie, and shoes. Girls are asked to wear a dress or skirt/pants with a blouse and shoes. No jeans, tee shirts or sneakers please. If these garments are not in your wardrobe, please contact your director. |
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| **Private Lessons**  For those students who truly enjoy the art of making music, private lessons are a great way to excel. The BMS Music Department has a list of teachers who would be willing to help your child become a better musician. If you and your child are interested, please send an email to:  [jasnyder@shsd.org](mailto:jasnyder@shsd.org)  jespineira@shsd.org |
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