

**APAC Instrumental Music**

**and**

**Music Literature**

**Mrs. Christine Cosnahan, Instructor**

# **APAC INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

## **Mrs. Christine Cosnahan, Instructor**

### **Goals and Emphases in Instrumental Music**

**Elementary:** Our goal is to help the students attain fluent capabilities in basic instrumental techniques. Our program is performance oriented. The teacher involves the students in performances as desirable and practical. Technical skill and performance experience are essential.

**Middle School:** Our goal is to expand the students' technical and musical skills and experiences. Again, we are performance oriented. The teacher will encourage participation in as many performance opportunities as are prudent.

**High School:** Our minimum goal is proficiency in all basic techniques and positions through the entire range of the instrument. We are performance oriented. Technical skill, musical style sense, and performance experience are essential.

### **General Information**

#### **APAC Instrumental Music Classes:**

APAC instrumental students play solos and large and small ensembles. Students are given both individual and group instruction. Students choose solo music at the beginning of the year and receive individualized instruction throughout the year. Students participate in All-City band and orchestra, All-State Orchestra, Mississippi Youth Symphony Orchestra, and Community bands and orchestras. In addition, students perform on two APAC performances each year. The APAC performances feature all levels of the Instrumental program.

#### **APAC Music Literature:**

Music Literature students work to develop listening skills and knowledge of instruments, musical terms, composers, and music history. The goal of the class is to broaden the musical and cultural appreciation of the student through presenting a wide variety of music.

**APAC INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC  
AND  
MUSIC LITERATURE GRADING POLICY  
Mrs. Christine Cosnahan, Instructor**

**Instrumental Music**

Grading for instrumental students follows the JPS system of designated percentages for various test grades and other grades for students in grades 4 – 12.

Unit test grades may be given for performance, technique, sight-reading, audience deportment, professional aspects of performance, and music portfolio. Music performance requirements are individualized. Students should show advancement in performance level from year to year.

Daily grades (classwork and independent work) include the following areas: presence of instrument and necessary materials, daily tests (playing and written), journals, written critiques, music notebook, and posture and instrument position. Students are expected to perform for Mrs. Cosnahan at least once a week to check accuracy and receive critique and suggestions for improvement. Homework grades include signed practice records, written reports on attendance at fine arts events (two per nine weeks are required), and other assignments.

Secondary students receive exam grades for semester performances. The exam grade counts 10% of the semester grade.

**Music Literature**

Grading in Music Literature follows the JPS system of designated percentages for various test grades and other grades for students in grades 4 – 12.

Unit tests may be written or project based with an oral presentation. Tests may contain historical and musical facts, terms, and/or listening examples.

Grades are given for classroom participation, written class work, daily tests, and written homework. It is necessary for students to have the required materials at every class meeting.

The Music Literature exam grade for secondary students is averaged with the exams for Written Theory/Keyboard and Music Skills. The average of the exams for these three courses counts 10% of the semester grade.

**To qualify to remain in the APAC Music program, students must end the year with an average grade of 80 or better. For secondary students, the overall average includes semester exams. Students are always encouraged to expand their horizons by working well above that minimum.**

**APAC INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**  
**GRADING CRITERIA**  
**Mrs. Christine Cosnahan, Instructor**

**Daily grades:**

Presence of necessary materials and instrument

Participation

Engaged practice

Studying music

Guided listening

Oral/written response

Written tests

Playing tests

Appropriate Posture and Position

Intonation and Accuracy

Journal and Notebook

**Unit test grades:**

Performances

Technique

Sight Reading

Portfolio

**Homework Grades:**

Practice record signed by parent

Worksheets

Written reports on outside fine arts events attended

# **APAC Instrumental Music Classroom Policies and Procedures**

## **Mrs. Christine Cosnahan, Instructor**

Instrumental music will abide by JPS policies and Power APAC policies and rules of conduct. In addition to district and building policies, the following classroom policies and procedures are to be observed.

- Follow directions the first time given.
- Line up silently in the hall in a single file line as you wait to enter the classroom. Remain silent as you enter the classroom.
- Book bags, lunches, cases and other large items are to be placed in the front of the classroom.
- There is no food or drink allowed in the classroom.
- There is no grooming allowed in the classroom. This includes applying lotions or perfumes/colognes.
- The string players must have their nails trimmed short. Long nails make correct hand position impossible.
- Students are expected to treat instruments and music materials with care.

### **Required Instrumental Materials**

Black music folder/binder

Instrument and bow within a hard case

Shoulder rest for violin or viola

Endpin anchor for cello

Rosin, cloth, and extra strings

Luggage tag for instrument case

Music stand for home practice