

# NORTH STAR JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL



**MUSIC DEPARTMENT 2015-2016**  
**REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE ► EXPECTATIONS ► GOALS ►**  
**STUDENT AGREEMENT FOR BAND & CHOIR**  
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**WELCOME TO A NEW YEAR OF MUSIC! THANK YOU FOR ENROLLING (YOUR STUDENT). THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT OUTLINES TEACHING ASPECTS, MUSICAL TERMS/CONCEPTS AND EXPECTATIONS OF THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT. IT IS MY SINCERE GOAL IS THAT YOU THE STUDENT (AND PARENT/GUARDIAN) WILL HAVE THE BEST POSSIBLE EXPERIENCE AND MUSIC EDUCATION THIS YEAR.**

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**SHARED SENSE OF URGENCY/ESPRIT DE CORPS/ PASSION: YOU'RE UNIQUE AND VALUABLE-PEOPLE WANT TO HEAR YOU PLAY/SING! BE CONFIDENT IN YOUR CONTRIBUTION-CULTIVATE A CLASSROOM CULTURE OF ACCEPTANCE, EMAPTHY, PATIENCE, TRUST, MUTUAL RESPECT, AND SAFETY.**

**MUSIC ALWAYS STARTS AND ENDS WITH SILENCE-RESPOND TO THE BATON/INSTRUCTOR WITH MAINTAINED EYE CONTACT AND WILLINGNESS TO LEARN**

**EXCELLENCE IS THE ONLY GOAL WE WANT TO ACHEIVE-ASPIRE TO IT DAILY**

**MAKE A POINT TO SMILE AND HAVE FUN WITH THE PROCESS OF CREATING SOMETHING THAT ONLY WE CAN DO! LAUGH AT LEAST ONCE IN EVERY CLASS**

**BODY LANGUAGE COMMUNICATES MORE THAN WORDS-CORRECT POSTURE COUNTS (BOTH SITTING AND STANDING)! ALWAYS USE BRIGHT EYES (PERFORM WITH THE FACE FIRST)! POOR POSTURE AND BREATH (AIR FLOW) ONLY RESULTS IN OUT OF TUNE MUSIC  
PRACTICE MAKES PERMANENT (NOT PERFECT)**

**BE CONTENT WITH STRENGTHENING THE FUNDAMENTALS: DON'T BE IN A RUSH**

**FAIL FAST (CORRECT MISTAKES SOONER THAN LATER) TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR**

**YOUR OWN MUSICIANSHIP-WE STUDY OUR WEAKNESSES IN ORDER TO ELIMINATE THEM**

**BEAUTY, POETRY, AND SHAPE: NOT JUST NOTES AND RHYTHMS EVERY NOTE HAS ITS OWN SHAPE AND MEANING -AWAKEN THE MUSIC**

**ARTICULATION: CONSISTENT EMBOUCHURE, SYLLABIC TONGUING/SLURRING, CLEAR VOWELS AND CONSONANTS**

**ARTISTRY: RECREATING THE WRITTEN TEXT AND MUSIC WITH INFORMED AND INSPIRED MEANING**

**BALANCE: HARMONIC AND MELODIC, LISTEN FOR BOTH QUANTITY AND QUALITY (PYRAMID)**

**BLEND: TONE "DISAPPEARS" INTO THE ENSEMBLE (ADJUST VOLUME-PITCH-TONE AS NECESSARY IF YOU ARE ONLY HEARING YOURSELF). IF YOU ONLY HEAR OTHERS ADJUST YOUR VOLUME!**

**ENSEMBLE: 100% COMMITMENT FROM EVERY ONE TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND PERFORM THE COMPLETE DETAILS OF THE SCORE WITH TRANSPARENCY**

**EXPRESSION: WHAT AND WHERE ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT NOTES OF THE PHRASE? WHY? HOW DO WE INTERPRET TEXT?**

**INTONATION:"BEATLESS" UNWAVERING TUNING: CONSONANCE EVEN IN DISSONANCE**

**PHONATION: AN EQUILIBRIUM OF BREATH ENERGY WITH THE ADDUCTION/ ABDUCTION OF THE VOCAL FOLDS**

**VIBRATO SHOULD ALWAYS CONFIRM THE PITCH, NOT CONFUSE IT**

**RESPIRATION: ENGAGING MUSCLES OF THE RIB CAGE, ABDOMINAL WALL, AND LOWER BACK TO CREATE A WARM AND VIBRANT AIR FLOW FOR PLAYING/SINGING.**

**NEVER OVERCROWD THE LUNGS OR BREATHE ABOVE THE RIB CAGE. UPPER BODY REMAINS VIRTUALLY MOTIONLESS DURING INHALATION/EXHALATION. STRIVE TO BE A MUSICIAN, NOT ONLY A PLAYER/SINGER**

**CRITICAL (NOT CASUAL) LISTENING-DON'T DEVELOP "EAR WARP" PAY ATTENTION TO EVERY NOTE!**

**NEVER PLAY/SING 'UNMUSICAL' OR WITHOUT PURPOSE**

**WATER IN A CLOSED CONTAINER IS PERMITTED AND ENCOURAGED IN MUSIC CLASS (JH/HS). FOOD AND GUM ARE PROHIBITED. THERE WILL BE SPECIAL OCCASIONS**

WHEN FOOD WILL BE PERMITTED IN CLASS WITH APPROVAL OF THE INSTRUCTOR.

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▶ PUNCTUALITY, ATTENDANCE, PROPER AUDIENCE ETIQUETTE AT ALL SCHOOL PERFORMANCES AND RELATED EVENTS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS. ONLY EMERGENCIES WILL BE EXCUSED AND WILL REQUIRE THE STUDENT TO PLAY/SING AND RECORD THE CONCERT MUSIC TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE INSTRUCTOR.

▶ FOLLOW ALL SCHOOL POLICIES IN THE STUDENT HANDBOOK.

▶ ASK PERMISSION TO LEAVE THE ROOM. RECORD THE TIME AT DEPARTURE WITH A SIGNED PASS AND SIGN IN THE TIME UPON RETURN. ONLY ONE STUDENT AT A TIME.

GRADING: SCHOOL CONCERTS ARE WORTH 100 POINTS.

MONTANA MUSIC EDUCATORS SPONSORED EVENTS ARE WORTH 50 POINTS.

THERE WILL BE REGULAR CLASSROOM ASSESSMENTS/PLAYING TESTS WORTH A VARIETY OF POINTS DEPENDING ON LENGTH AND DIFFICULTY.

STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASSESS THEIR PROGRESS/CONTRIBUTION EACH GRADING PERIOD. THE INSTRUCTOR WILL OBSERVE EACH STUDENT INDIVIDUALLY TO DETERMINE AN EQUITABLE COLLABORATION GRADE TO ACCOMPANY EARNED POINTS.



NORTH STAR SCHOOLS  
2015-2016

**MUSIC DEPARTMENT  
SCHOOL AND OTHER PERFORMANCE DATES:**

**OCTOBER 10 *HOMECOMING***

**OCTOBER 14-16 *MMEA CONVENTION* BILLINGS WEST HS**

**TBA (GRADES 5 & 6, 20 (JH/HS CHOIR) & (JH/HS BAND) *INFORMANCE*  
DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIODS**

**NOVEMBER 30 & DECEMBER 1 *NORTH CENTRAL MT HONOR FESTIVAL*  
CHOTEAU HIGH SCHOOL**

**DECEMBER 15 *JH/HS WINTER CONCERT* 7:00PM**

**DECEMBER 17 *ELEMENTARY CONCERT* 6:30PM**

**APRIL 15 & 16 *DISTRICT MUSIC FESTIVAL* HAVRE**

**MAY 6 & 7 *STATE SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL* MISSOULA**

**MAY 10 JH/HS *SPRING CONCERT* 7:00PM**

**MAY 12 *ELEMENTARY SPRING CONCERT* 6:30PM**

**MAY 21 *GRADUATION***

