

Lincoln College Preparatory Academy
Instrumental Music

Handbook and Syllabus



Grades 6-8
2011-2012

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RULES AND REGULATIONS

“Not all good bands/orchestras are at good schools, but all good schools have good bands/orchestras.”

In order that all members of the instrumental program may fully enjoy their musical experiences and obtain the fullest educational and musical values from their participation, it is important that the policies and procedures of the instrumental program be understood and followed.

ATTENDANCE

In accordance with District policy, Band/Orchestra is a performance based class. Performances are an extension of the classroom. Attendance is expected at all regularly scheduled Instrumental Music Rehearsals and Performances. In the event that you are not able to attend a specific rehearsal or performance, you are to notify the director "**prior**" to the rehearsal or performance by a parental phone call or note. We will work with you as much as possible, but not all absences will be approved. Failure to approve an absence will result in a lowered class grade.

The fine arts, as an essential component of the college prep theme, require daily student participation. Attendance is vital to success. **In accordance with District policy:** any student who has eight absences in a quarter or sixteen absences in a semester will receive a grade of “F” pending review by the attendance committee.

DISCIPLINE

There is to be no cursing or swearing, or bad or disruptive conduct at any time.

Smoking or chewing is not permitted during any band/orchestra trip, rehearsal, or performance.

All school rules contained in the student handbook will be followed and the student is expected to read and understand these basic principles of conduct.

YOU represent Lincoln College Preparatory Academy. If you have a question about how to act, or what you are to do, ASK!!!!

GRADING

All members are expected to develop and maintain an attitude of cooperation and enthusiasm and be willing to help each other and the directors.

Since Music is an Art Form, total grade evaluation cannot be accomplished by only evaluating how well the student plays. However, improvement is expected, and this requires practice, and practicing will result in you receiving a better grade. The percentages and requirements that follow will be adjusted to fit the appropriate performance level of the student.

District Core Curriculum -

The directors at LCPA helped write the band/orchestra portion of the District Core Curriculum. We will also be preparing the students with the fundamentals necessary to successfully complete the sixth subject area or music area of the IB program and to successfully pass the Advanced Placement Exam and the fine arts portion of the MAP tests.

Performances - 40% of total class grade:

You will receive 100-500 pts.

Performances, Competitions, Auditions

If necessary, the following will be deducted from the above -

Unexcused Tardies	- 20 %
Unexcused Absences	- 100 %
Gum/Pop/Food	- 20 %
Improper Uniform	- 100 %
No music/instrument	- 100 %

Rehearsals/Daily - 40% of total class grade:

You will receive 100 pts.

Daily

If necessary, the following will be deducted from the above -

Unexcused Tardies	- 20 %
Unexcused Absences	- 100 %
Not ready for start of formal class (in seat, instrument tuned & warmed up, music in order)	- 20 %
Gum/Pop/Food	- 20 %
Non-participation	- 100 %
Assigned material not ready for class	- 10 to 100 %
Improper Posture/Instrument Carriage	- 20 %
Inability to properly put away music and/or instrument	- 20 %

Playing and/or Written Tests/Assignments and MYP Reflections - 20% of total class grade:

Various playing and/or written tests/assignments, and MYP Reflections will be given from time to time. Some will be announced, some will be unannounced.

Festivals, solos, and auditions are a major component of a college prep curriculum. They are part of the performance requirements for the AP/IB Music program. College scholarships are based on these. With this in mind:

Participation in Solo Festivals is encouraged and expected in most levels.

The Advanced Bands will have a project each semester:

First Semester Project – All-District Auditions

Second Semester Project – Solo Competition

“The student derives benefit in direct ratio to the amount of work and effort put into the activity”

TUTORING

Tutoring will be available on Tuesday and Thursday, 2:45-3:45 p.m., by appointment.

INSTRUMENTS

All students are encouraged to rent or purchase their own instrument. We will be happy to help anyone who needs assistance with this.

All students using a school instrument are required to fill out a District Loan Agreement before an instrument will be issued. All students are responsible for any item listed on the District Loan Agreement. Be aware:

- There is a non-refundable \$50.00 per year maintenance fee.
- Students are held responsible for the replacement cost of their instrument if it is lost or stolen.
- Students are responsible for **any** repair costs.

Students who have outstanding debts to the LCPA instrumental program will not be issued an instrument.

No student may expect or demand a specific instrument. Instruments issued to students will be based on student aptitude, attitude, instrumentation needs and availability.

Students in possession of another students' instrument, oil, reeds, mouthpiece, neck strap, etc., will be considered in possession of stolen property and will be dealt with according to school policy.

Any student who consistently leaves his/her instrument out, does not properly put it away, or does not maintain a clean, properly functioning instrument will have his/her instrument returned to the directors.

STUDENT INSTRUMENT NEEDS

In accordance with District policy, all students are responsible for:

Strings - Rosin, strings, cleaning cloth, metronome, tuner
Woodwinds - Mouthpiece, reeds (Strength 3, Vandoren or Rico Royal),
ligature, swabs, neck strap, cork grease, metronome
Brass - Mouthpiece, oil, mouthpiece brush, polishing cloth, slide lubricant,
metronome
Percussion - Sticks, mallets, metronome, stick bag, drum key

No students will be issued an instrument until they have the above items.

Since our upper level bands use professional line instruments, students in the Advanced Bands are expected to have upline mouthpieces, ligatures, and reeds:

Clarinets - Vandoren B-45, Luyben Ligature & Cap

Alto Sax - Selmer C *, Runyen Ligature

Trumpet - Bach 3C Megatone

Horn – Holton-Farkas Model MC

Trombone/Euphonium - Bach 6 1/2 AL Megatone

Tuba - Bach 18

MUSIC

Performance music is supplied by the school. All students are responsible for their sheet music. Lost sheet music will cost \$3.00/sheet.

Class Book: “The first one is free, the second one is three (\$3.00).”

PERFORMING UNIFORM

Our performing attire is:

Solid BLACK Shirt – Button Front and properly tucked in

Solid BLACK Slacks

Solid BLACK Shoes (NOT Shiny)

Solid BLACK Socks

TRIPS AND OUTSIDE PERFORMANCES

During the course of the year, we will go as many places as financially possible. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT:

- We run on time.
- We represent Lincoln College Preparatory Academy.
- All behavior and actions are under the direct control of the Instrumental Music Department and the Rules and Regulations of LCPA and the Kansas City, MO, School District.
- No permission slip = No go.
- We travel as a group and stay as a group.

If you are in doubt as to your behavior, or if it is permissible, ask first.

All students will be transported from the school to the activities sponsored by the school off school grounds by bus. The return trip will be by that same bus unless an excuse is in the hands of the sponsor of that bus before the bus leaves the school on the trip. This written excuse shall indicate that the student is making the return trip with his or her parent/legal guardian. The parent/guardian may contact the directors at the event or activity if they wish to transport their son/daughter home following the event, but for bookkeeping, the written note is also required.

Example of information to be included in written note:

Please excuse (Name) from riding home on the school bus or school provided transportation (Month/Day/Year) from (Event/Place). The Kansas City, MO, School District and Mr. Martz/Mr. Bata are hereby released from all responsibility for (Student's Name) safety and return home.

Date

Parent/Guardian's Signature

TWO YEAR EXCURSIONS

Every two years, the 8th grade members will be eligible to take a major trip. To participate:

- Students are responsible for raising their own funds.
- Students must be currently enrolled in LCPA and in the instrumental program.
- Students are also required to have completed the preceding two consecutive years as an "active" participant in the LCPA instrumental program.
- Students will maintain a minimum of a "B" in class.
- Transfer students eligibility will be determined by the directors.

The trips are a privilege, not a right. The directors will approve all participating students.

FUNDRAISERS

The band/orchestra participates in two student fundraisers a year. The money raised is kept in individual accounts and may be used for the two-year excursions or any required instrumental fees. If, at any time, the student leaves the program, for any reason, their account becomes part of the general instrumental fund and their records are deleted.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

1. PRIDE IS VISIBLE
2. PRACTICE AS IF IT WERE A PERFORMANCE
3. STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST
4. WHEN IN DOUBT - ASK SOMEBODY
5. WHEN WRONG - ADMIT AND ADJUST
6. NO EXCUSES - JUST RESULTS
7. BE POSITIVE - SHOW ENTHUSIASM
8. ON TIME - IS LATE
9. EXECUTE THE FUNDAMENTALS
10. DON'T FORGET WHAT WE LEARNED YESTERDAY

WE CARE ABOUT EACH OTHER

CONCLUDING STATEMENT

Most of the questions that you have will be covered in this handbook. Read and re-read it. We want you to have a positive educational experience while being a member of the LCPA Instrumental Program.

Anything not covered in this handbook must be cleared by the directors.

REMEMBER.....if in doubt.....ASK!!!!

" P R I D E Gets Things Done "

*Happy are those who dream dreams
and are ready to pay the price
to make them come true.*

Please read, sign, and return this form. Thank you.

We have read and reviewed the 2011-2012 Instrumental Handbook. We understand:

- the grading policy, as outlined in the handbook.

If we are using a school instrument, we know we are responsible for:

- a \$50.00 per year maintenance fee.
- all instrument repairs and any lost or stolen items.
- any lost or stolen instruments.

We will have all the items for our instrument we are responsible for having, as outlined in the handbook.

We will have the appropriate attire for performances, as outlined in the handbook.

We know when tutoring is available and our student has permission to stay for tutoring as needed.

We are aware that not returning this form will affect our first quarter grade. If there is anything we have questions about, we will contact you at 418-3525.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Parent email Address

Date signed: _____