

# Pine Valley Middle School 2009-10

## Orchestra Course Policy

Mr. Boyd  
mboyd@srvusd.net

Rehearsals are every day for 7th and 8th graders. Performing concerts and festivals outside of school time is part of the student's grade. California Music Benchmarks and Standards are taught in this class. Students will use their Binder Reminder for locker information and concert dates.

### Expectations

Students are expected to be in class with their instrument, music, and daily supplies like reeds and an extra set of strings. Practicing is also expected. Students are expected to practice their orchestra music at home, not just "music", and will be graded on completion of practice cards. Practice cards will be issued and need to be signed by a parent at the bottom, twice a quarter. Students who do not turn in practice cards are not eligible for an "A" grade for the quarter. If a student has not practiced, they are still required to turn in a signed practice card indicating that. Cards not signed by a parent will not earn any credit.

Instruments are stored in lockers in the band room during the school day and should be picked up after school between 2:30 and 2:45pm. Mr. Boyd teaches at three other schools, so he is not on campus except in the morning and during scheduled periods.

### Grading Policy:

A = 90 to 100%  
B = 80 to 89%  
C = 70 to 79%  
D = 60 to 69%  
F = below 60 %

Concert participation 40%  
Home practice 10%  
Returning signed notices in a timely manner 10%  
Class performance and participation 20%  
Tests (written and / or playing) 10%  
Attitude 10%

Grades will be recorded on School Loop only as necessary, not daily.

Tardiness will be handled first with a warning, then an assignment, then a parent contact, and finally a referral to the office.

### Performances

Performing concerts and festivals outside of school time is part of the student's grade. The following concerts are expected concerts and are a part of their grade. Missing a concert can result in failing the class for the quarter. Please write these dates on your family calendar.

- 1) Monday December 14<sup>th</sup>, Winter Concert, 7pm, PV Auditorium
- 2) March 25<sup>th</sup> Area Band Festival (wind players only), at Cal High in the gym. An after school practice will be coordinated with the Iron Horse teacher a week prior.
- 3) Wednesday May 19<sup>th</sup>, District String Festival (stings only), 7pm Dougherty Valley High School
- 3) Tuesday June 1<sup>st</sup>, Spring Concert, 7pm, PV Auditorium
- 4) A Saturday Band Festival may be scheduled in late April or Early May.

A list of private instructors is available for parents if requested.

## Materials

Strings: Bow rosin,  
Extra strings  
Cello end peg coasters  
Electronic tuner is optional, but a good idea.

Woodwinds: Each student needs 3 extra reeds No. 2 ½ or No. 3 reeds in their case at all times.  
Use cork grease once a month to make the cork easy to assemble.  
Cleaning equipment like "pad savers" and cleaning equipment.  
Neck straps as needed

Brass: valve oil and tuning slide grease.  
a straight mute and a cup mute needed for trumpet players.  
Cleaning snake swab for cleaning inside instrument and a mouthpiece brush.  
Cleaning kits are available at the music store. Instruments should be cleaned once a month.  
Slide cream and spray water bottle for trombones.

Percussionists : Drummers are expected to purchase a stick bag complete:  
a pair of medium weight drum sticks  
a set of brushes  
a pair of soft mallets for suspended cymbal rolls and occasional tympani.

Returning this form signed and on time is a graded assignment. Do not tear it off.
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My student and I have both read and understand the expectations of this class.

Student Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Students are asked for a \$15 annual "class fee" to purchase sheet music. I have provided a technique book for each student this year to avoid that cost. Please place cash or check (PV Middle School) in an envelope with your student's first and last name written clearly on the outside. These funds are exclusively for the band and they provide us with necessary funds to buy new music and supplies for the band. Locks were purchased this summer to secure their lockers. Your \$15 or more contribution will help defray that cost. Thank you for your contribution.

**After returning this form, your student can request a duplicate for your records.**