

Respectful, Responsible and Safe

Symphonic Orchestra, Chamber Strings and Camerata

Pat Nebesniak 6-12 Orchestra Director

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GOALS

Through the making of music, all participants in the Kearney High School orchestra program will work towards the following musical and non-musical goals:

1. To provide an atmosphere that will promote self-esteem and pride through a creative environment.
2. Develop individual self-confidence through working as a group member.
3. Respect the feelings of fellow musicians.
4. Respect the process of making music as an ensemble.
5. Strive to be the best orchestra we can be.

CLASSROOM RULES AND PROCEDURES

ATTENDANCE

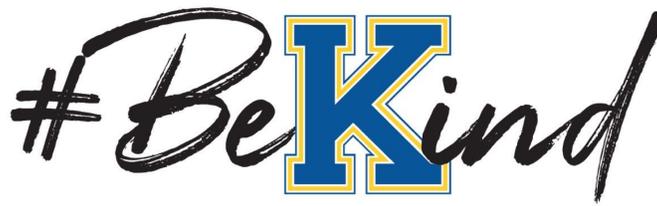
Attendance is required and crucial to the success of our orchestra program. At Kearney High School, absences are either EXCUSED or UNEXCUSED through the Kearney High Attendance Office.

- *Excused Absences - students will have an opportunity to make up work missed if they first visit with the teacher to set up a timeline.*
- *Unexcused Absences - students will forfeit all credit for work completed on this day and a zero will be entered in the gradebook under our daily participation score.*

Please take time to read the Attendance and Tardy Policy in the student handbook. I will be adhering to this policy, however I will be making contact home as soon as any issues arise regarding tardiness and attendance.

REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS

Rehearsal time is for making our musical performance better through careful study and meticulous practice. Rehearsal requires the concentrated effort of every member of the group. We will rehearse Symphonic Orchestra, Chamber Strings and Camerata on opposite days for the entire block Monday through Thursday, and each will rehearse for half a block on Fridays. For those who are not in Camerata, you will be enrolled in “Chamber Strings” and will work full group rehearsal with Mrs. Peterson on Tuesdays and Thursdays, focusing on concert music, but more importantly, string fundamentals and technique. YOU MUST REMAIN IN THE ROOM AT ALL TIMES, AND PARTICIPATION IS NOT OPTIONAL! NO FOOD OR DRINK ALLOWED IN REHEARSAL ROOMS. WATER IS THE ONLY EXCEPTION.



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Rehearsal procedure will be as follows:

- Before entering the rehearsal room, students should take all necessary equipment (instrument, music, pencil, shoulder rests etc.) from the instrument storage room to their assigned seat.
- Students must be seated, ready to begin tuning and warm-up procedures **before** the bell rings.
- When the director is on the podium all focus should be on that individual.
- When rehearsal is over all materials are to be returned to the orchestra storage room. Students will be dismissed from our rehearsal room.

Weekly Rehearsal Plan:

Mondays: Full Symphonic Orchestra in Band Room

Tuesdays: Camerata in Black Box, Chamber Strings with Mrs. Peterson either CHaT or Choir Room

Wednesdays: Full Symphonic Orchestra in Band Room

Thursdays: Camerata in Black Box, Chamber Strings with Mrs. Peterson either CHaT or Choir Room

Fridays: Full Symphonic Orchestra 8:00-8:40 in Band Room, Split like Thursday at 8:40.

CONCERT EXPECTATIONS

All students are expected and required to attend all performances. Besides being a major part of your grade, it is imperative that we have everyone performing their part for the betterment of the group.

EVERYONE is important! Unless otherwise stated, our concert attire is as follows:

Dress for all concerts is black top, black bottom, black dress shoes. No striped, patterned, or gray tops, please. Ladies, if you wear a skirt or dress, it must be ankle length, no exceptions.

If you are asked to sit in the audience for any portion of the performance, it is expected you will follow proper concert etiquette.

INSTRUMENTS, BOWS and MUSIC

Please use care at all times when you are in the classroom or around instruments. Everything you were taught about instrument care in elementary and middle school still applies! All instruments must be returned to their cases, and placed in assigned locker at the end of rehearsal.

Each musician will have a folder and music. It is the student's responsibility to take care of this music. If you lose a piece of music, please inform Mr. Nebesniak right away so a replacement can be given. Please keep music in folders and only mark it with a pencil.

LOCKERS AND INSTRUMENT STORAGE

Each student will be assigned a personal locker. It is the student's responsibility to take care of this locker as well as the storage room. Locks were NOT purchased for these lockers, so if a student wishes to have a lock they must provide their own. Students will notice there is a Humidistat in the storage room that controls the humidity levels in the room. Please do NOT touch the controls on this unit as they will be set by Mr. Nebesniak only.



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CHAIR PLACEMENT POLICY

A chair placement audition will ensure every student is seated in a spot where they will experience the highest level of success. With the exception of principal players this will not be a first and last chair decision but more to place students in a seat where they will be able to grow as a musician. Principal players will be appointed based on their musical ability and willingness to lead. Principal players must be able to lead their section in a productive rehearsal when asked to do so. Each piece may call for a move within in sections, so students will be asked to change seats and parts depending on the piece being played. Once given a seat, students are expected to stay in that seat. Please don't try and secretly move to sit by your friends! I will move you back.

CAMERATA AUDITIONS

If a student was in Camerata the previous year, they are automatically a member for the current year (This will be the last year of this practice). Audition material and procedures will be addressed in the first days. By the end of the first full week of school, the group will be set.

GRADING

Students are graded on 3 categories:

Classroom Participation (35%) Students are given 5 points a day for simply participating in class. If a student chooses to not participate for the day without permission, you will receive a 0 for the day.

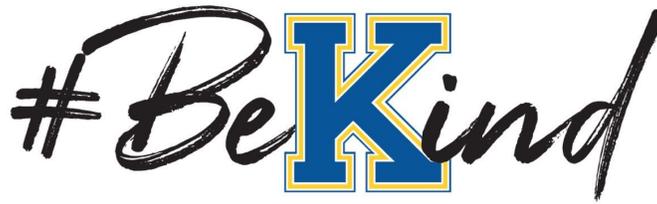
Concert Attendance (50%) Please see "Concert Expectations above"

Playing/Written quizzes (15%) Students will have playing and written assignments throughout the year to measure progress.

2nd CHANCE POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORTS MODEL

In an ongoing process to develop a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), Kearney High School is continually developing a whole-school, data-driven, prevention-based framework for improving academic, social, emotional, and behavioral learning outcomes for EVERY student through a continuum of evidence-based practices and supports. Positive student behavior in the classroom is necessary so all students can learn and in an effort to provide consistency across all classrooms at Kearney High School, teachers and administrators have developed the 2nd Chance Positive Behavior Supports Model to ensure that all students are given an opportunity to reflect on their behaviors prior to being referred to their grade-level administrator. The following guidelines will be used by ALL teachers at Kearney High School in order to promote positive student behaviors.

1. Students who exhibit negative behaviors that are nonviolent and intentionally disrespectful (e.g. inappropriate language, disruptive behavior, insubordination, etc.) will enter the 2nd Chance Protocol. Students who enter this protocol may receive a warning about their behavior based on



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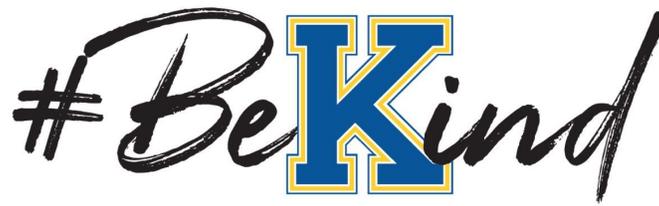
the teacher's discretion or may be immediately removed and placed in the 2nd Chance Room (a nearby classroom)

2. If a student is placed in a 2nd Chance Room, they will remain in that classroom for the remainder of the instructional period. While in the 2nd Chance Room, students WILL NOT have access to their Chromebook or any other electronic device (cell phone, music player, etc.). Students will be required to fill out a processing form regarding their behavior. If a student finishes their processing form early, they will sit quietly in the 2nd Chance Room and work on homework. At the conclusion of the class period, the student will return their processing form to their teacher and set up a conference time with the teacher to reflect on the behavior together. Failure to return the processing form to the teacher or attend the conference with the teacher will result in the student being referred to their grade-level administrator. PLEASE NOTE: A conference between the student and teacher must be completed before the student is allowed to return to class the next day.
3. If a student is placed in a 2nd Chance Room and they are disruptive or non-compliant, they will be removed and sent to the Administration Office for the remainder of the class period and a behavior referral will be submitted. Prior to the student being able to return to class the next day, a conference will be held between the student, teacher, and administrator.
4. Students who exhibit dangerous or violent behavior will bypass the 2nd Chance Positive Behavior Supports Model and will immediately be removed from the classroom and sent to the administration office.

OPUS (Orchestra Parents United in Service)

OPUS was organized in 2003 as a parent booster group for the KPS orchestra programs. The group provides volunteers when needed, funds for expenses above the school budget, scholarships, meals and more. All parents of middle school and high school orchestra students are invited and encouraged to be a part of OPUS. Like them on Facebook for more information (KPS OPUS).

We will meet every 2nd Tuesday in the Black Box Theatre, please feel free to come participate!



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7 CLASS OBJECTIVES- We will focus on the following musical concepts to make us the best orchestra we can be:

1-Rhythm: Students will perform accurate rhythms together within a synchronized pulse and a musically convincing tempo.

2-Articulation: Students will perform the same bowings, articulations and styles.

3-Tone: Students will use the same bow weight, speed and contact point to create balanced tone and timbre.

4-Intonation: Students will finely tune their own notes to be in tune with other musicians

5-Dynamics: Students will use a volume that blends with the section, that balances the importance of one part with respect to the others.

6-Technique: Students will breathe, move, cue and perform together in synchrony with others. Students will pay attention to their partner's use of right and left hand, bowings and notes and rhythms.

7-Expression: Students will convey musically expressive ideas that go beyond the notes on the page. Character, style, interpretation, beauty, intensity, mood, and emotion.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

August 19-September 9: Registration open for All-State (\$20)

September 18-28: Audition window opens for All-State (we will hold auditions outside of the school day, and will sign up for times throughout this window)

October 14: KHS Orchestra Concert 7:30 at KHS

October 16: All-State Students announced.

November 21-23: NMEA All-State Orchestra

December 17: KHS Music Concert Concert Choir/Con Band/Sym Band/Symphonic Orchestra

December 19: KHS Music Concert Varsity Girls/Chorale/Wind Ensemble/ Camerata

January 30-February 1: Hastings College Honor Orchestra

February 6-8: Wesleyan Honor Orchestra

March 16: KHS Orchestra Concert at KHS 7:30 at KHS.

April 25: District Music Contest in Central City (Only soloists and Camerata)

April 26: KHS Orchestra Banquet 5:00-7:00 in the Scott D. Morris Institute KHS

May 5: Final Orchestra Concerts of the year 5th-7th at 6:00, 8th-12th at 7:30

May 14: Musicalia

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After Reading through the Syllabus/Handbook, please sign and Return to Mr. Nebesniak by August 23rd.

I have read and understand what is expected of me in the KHS Orchestra Program:

Student Name _____ Student Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

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