**Lathrop Intermediate School**

**Beg.Band, Beg.Orchestra, Adv.Band, Adv.Orchestra, Stage Band: Course Syllabus**

*Welcome to Band and Orchestra at Lathrop Intermediate School! It’s a privilege to be your director this year. The overall goals for this class are to develop a strong sense of musicianship, commitment, camaraderie, and pride for being part of a successful performing ensemble. Studying music develops personal confidence, and lets everyone participate and work together as a team. In order to be in band and orchestra, the student needs to learn fast, practice hard, and improve at the same rate or a faster rate than the other students in the ensemble. Every member is* ***depending on you*** *to learn your part—to play it to the best of your ability.* ***The music as a whole is determined by the sum of its parts and each individual member of the ensemble counts on one another to contribute and constantly give 100% effort, or it will fall apart.***

**Curriculum:** I teach my music program based on the *National Standards for Music Education, which fully includes the elements of the California State Standards for Music grades 6-8. (https://www2.cde.ca.gov/cacs/all?carea=5&order=0&page=0&perpage=10&mingrade=6&maxgrade=8&dl=0&query=music).* **Students will be able to…**

* *Sing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music*
* *Perform on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music*
* *Improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments*
* *Compose and arrange music within specified guidelines*
* *Read and notate music*
* *Listen, analyze, and describe music critically*
* *Evaluate music and music performances*
* *Understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside of the arts*
* *Understand music in relation to history and culture.*

Beg.Band: This class is open to students grades 6-8. Students focus on basic technique on their instrument, work in method books and Level ½ - I literature.

Adv.Band; This class is open to students grades 7-8(experienced). Technique development, perform Level I-III literature. Multiple performance opportunities throughout the year.

Beg.Orchestra: This class is open to students, grades 6-8. Students focus on basic technique/development on their instrument, work in method books and Level ½ - I literature.

Adv.Orchestra: This class is open to students grades 7-8(experienced). Technique development, perform Level I-III literature. Multiple performance opportunities throughout the year.

Stage Band: This class is open to students grades 6-8(auditioned). Students will focus on basic technique/development on their various instruments, and have the performing ability to play literature from diverse genres/styles, such as pop, jazz, rock, blues, mariachi, Tejano, and norteno. ***Students have required rehearsals every Tues/Thurs 2:30pm-3:30pm to include additional adv. music students, & are also required members of the Advanced Band, and will participate in all of their performances, as well as their own, throughout the year.***

\*All groups rehearse everyday during class, and include occasional after school rehearsals & evening performances throughout the school year. Calendar dates TBA.

\* All music courses are a full, 1 year commitment! Administrative policy is that no schedule changes will be allowed after the first initial 2 weeks of classes.

**Required Materials:** *Students will be expected to always be prepared and bring the following materials to class everyday:* Instrument and necessary accessories (example: valve oil, reeds, neck straps, drum sticks/mallets, pads, shoulder rests, cello rock stops, rosin etc.), music folder and all music distributed in class, pencil, notebook paper, and a fully charged chrome book.

**Required Online Tools:** *Google Classroom* is used to track/organize assignments/materials/resources, as well as apps like *“Flip.”* Our website is <https://sites.google.com/sausdlearns.net/lathrop-instrumental-music/home> and please follow us on Instagram @lathrop\_instrumental\_music

**Rules and Regulations/Discipline:**

* Come to class with all materials. Unprepared students will be warned. Repeated offenses will necessitate an Axiom record, a call home, possible detention, and a lowering of the musicianship/citizenship grade.
* Students must be seated and have instruments out and ready for a downbeat 4 min. after the bell rings. Students who fail to meet this requirement will receive a verbal warning, an Axiom record, followed by a call home, possible detention, and a lowering of the musicianship/citizenship grade.
* Students are responsible for putting all equipment neatly away after teacher dismissal, including instruments, music, accessories, and occasionally chairs and stands.
* No talking is allowed while I am on the director’s podium. Talking is only allowed between members of a particular instrument section and their “section leader,” so long as it pertains to the music. Raise your hand if you have a question. Disruptive conversation will result in verbal warning, an Axiom record, call home, possible detention or referral to office, and a lowering of the musicianship/citizenship grade.
* No playing instruments while I am on the podium, unless otherwise directed. This is rude and disruptive. Consequences will result in warning, Axiom record, phone call home, possible detention or referral, and a lowering of the musicianship/citizenship grade.
* Always be courteous and respectful to your fellow classmates and instructor. Disrespectful conduct will affect the musicianship/citizenship grade and result in an Axiom record referral with possible suspension from class, and a phone call home.
* Turn in all assignments and complete musical exams on scheduled dates. Late work is accepted for 2 days after a deadline with negative marks. Performances require an excused absence.
* Abide by all School Rules!

**Attendance Policy:** The attendance policy is in accordance with the Lathrop Intermediate School Student Handbook Policy. If un-excused absences become excessive, the student’s grade may be lowered. Consistent absence is not fair to the rest of the ensemble! \*\*\***Our Tests are our Performances, and in any other class, if you missed a test, you would get a “zero.” Missing a performance will greatly affect the student’s attendance/participation grade!**

**Grading/Assessment:**

**- Performance/Playing Test:** There will be two exams, one midterm and one final each semester. The tests will assess the student’s ability and understanding of the repertoire; *Grade related to student’s practice log and personal development/improvement.* Students will be able to play their individual musical parts under the following rubric:

**-**Correct Tempo 20pts

**-**Tone Quality/Intonation 20pts

**-**Musicianship/Interpretation 20pts

**-**Rhythmic Accuracy 20pts

**-**Articulation 20pts

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_total out of 100 pts.**

* + **“Flip” Practice Log:** The student will keep a digital practice log for everyday that the student practices. There will be 2 required Practice Log Flipgrid Videos due on a rotational week by instrument section. 6 points each, for a total of 12 points per assigned week. Only 3 pts are allotted for audio only videos, or being off screen. Logs will be graded as they are submitted, with comments and/or video feedback, & formally graded at the end of the month under homework assignments/pop-quizzes. Videos must be 10 min in length, which is the default setting, however, the entire practice session should be 30-60 min for adequate progress/development. **Worth 48-60 pts depending on rotation frequency.**

**- Attendance/participation:** Student attendance in class, at rehearsals, and performances is factored into the overall grade, along with participation in all activities. Performances are required! If you have to miss, let me know at least **2 weeks in advance with written notice**, and a make-up assignment will be arranged. **Worth 200 pts.**

**- Musicianship/citizenship:** Student musicianship and citizenship are assessed by being prepared for all rehearsals, having all necessary materials, having a good, respectful attitude. All students have 50 free musicianship/citizenship pts and they may be deducted as a result of misbehavior and not being prepared.

**-Worth 50 pts**

- **Homework Assignments/pop-quizzes:** Students are assessed on all assigned homework and quizzes. Quizzes may take the form of short playing tests in front of the class, multiple choice, T/F, short answer, or practice log review. *See previous practice log explanation under Performance Playing Test.* **Worth 50 pts or more with additional assignments.**

**Grading /Assessment Recap:**

Performance/Playing Test (200pts), attendance/participation (200pts), musicianship/citizenship (50pts), homework assignments/pop-quizzes (48-60pts) = 510**pts.** ***Extra Credit will be made available!! Ask!!***

**Concert Dress:** At our many performances we need to look as professional as possible, and so we will wear the standard attire for musicians. You **must** wear the following for all school related performances unless otherwise directed:

Gentlemen: White long-sleeved, collared dress shirt (tucked in), black dress slacks (not jeans), black socks, and black dress shoes. Black long ties and suit jackets are optional.

Ladies: White collared blouse, black dress slacks (not jeans), or black skirt (below knee), or solid black dress (below knee), black dress shoes.

Students will also have an informal uniform attire of “**Music Shirt/Black Pants**.” Music shirts will be sold and made available to participating members. Students will wear their “Music Shirt” for performances such as assemblies, Back to School Night, Open House, Middle School Night Football Game with our HS, and other more casual performances.

**Calendar:** A more complete calendar will be available in the next few weeks. As of now, please schedule the dates below: *Some dates are Tentative and may change. Look for update flyers, website & Parent Square posts.*

Sep 7, 2023 Back to School Night (Adv.Band/Stage Band),**TBD Fundraiser Drink Sale**

**TBA**

Oct 13, 2023 **Tent** Football Night w/ Santa Ana HS Band, 3:30pm-10:00pm

Dec. 14, 2023 Holiday Concert (BegBand/BegOrch) **3:30pm**. (AdvBand/AdvOrch/Stage Band) **6:30pm**, Commons, Lathrop Int.

Mar 2, 2024 Boca de Oro Arts Festival (Adv.Band/Adv.Orch/Stage Band) Downtown Santa Ana, **TBA**

April 25, 2024 Open House – 5pm ish (Stage Band) **TBD Fundraiser Drink Sale**

May 16, 2024 End of Year Concert (BegBand/BegOrch**) 3:30pm**. (AdvBand/AdvOrch/Stage Band) **6:30pm**. Commons, Lathrop Int.

**\*Please Look For Future Addendums To This Calendar & Syllabus\***

**In Closing:** For any music program to be successful, discipline, responsibility, and effort are absolutely necessary. Our rules and guidelines when read together may sound like Lathrop Music is a lot of work. This is true; however, being a member of the music program is a rewarding and unique experience, unlike anything else. Only in music can you be in a structured, social environment, with friends all coming together to create art, entertainment, beauty, and an experience an audience can remember forever! Again, I welcome you to the Instrumental Music Department, and assure you a successful year of music-making and fun. *Join us and make Lathrop Music A Great Experience!!!!! Spartan Pride!!*

**On the Back of this Page is the *Contract of Mutual Consent*. After reading all of the information in the Syllabus, please sign and return this form to Mr. Barr by Friday, August 18th, 2023.**

***Contract of Mutual Consent***

I, the undersigned **student**, accept membership in the Lathrop Instrumental Music Program and understand that I am responsible for all the policies as set forth in the course syllabus. I fully agree to carry out my responsibilities to the very best of my ability.

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Print Name Grade / Instrument / ID Number

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(Student Signature) (Date)

I, the undersigned **parent or guardian**, have read and understand the policies as set forth in the course syllabus. I also grant full permission for my child to be an active member of the Lathrop Instrumental Music Program. In addition, my child has full permission to attend all band/orchestra functions, and will do so to the best of my ability.

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Print Name Best Contact Phone Number

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Preferred Email Address for communication

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(Parent Signature) (Date)