

Grading Policy

Students' grades will be calculated for both A-day and B-day classes in the following manner:

Preparedness	25%
Individual Rehearsal Contribution	25%
Tests/Concerts/Rehearsals	25%
Performance Points	25%

Preparedness:

Students are expected to have their instrument, music, and accessories in class every day. Students are expected to come to class prepared to play the music that is being studied. Students are expected to exhibit superior self-discipline and professionalism in rehearsals, as well as to practice the music at home so they are prepared to perform in class. (*Please refer to the Preparedness Rubric to see how each quarter is graded.*)

Individual Rehearsal Contribution:

Students are expected to be in their seats, ready to play at the appropriate time. Students are expected to be focused in rehearsals; listen without talking and concentrate. Students are expected to respect the property of the school and of others at all times. Students should always sit or stand straight with both feet on the floor and play their instruments with proper posture, hand/finger placement, and correct position. Students are expected to exhibit professionalism during all rehearsals. (*Please refer to the Individual Rehearsal Contribution rubric to see how each quarter is graded.*)

There will be times in class when students are expected to practice individually or in small groups. Students will be graded on their ability to self-guide this practice time. Students are expected to practice appropriate music, manage their time wisely, stay on task, and allow their classmates to stay on task by not being disruptive to others. (*Please refer to the Individual Practice rubric to see how each class is graded.*)

Tests/Concerts/Rehearsals:

Dress rehearsals and concerts will each be graded as a test grade. Students are expected to be present at the exact call time, focus during the rehearsal/performance, have the appropriate concert dress, exhibit proper playing position, and always have professionalism in rehearsals/performances. (*Please refer to the Concert/Dress Rehearsal rubric to see how each event is graded.*)

Tests will be given during each quarter. Test may be written or playing tests; announced or unannounced. **Written tests** may include music vocabulary tests, basic music theory tests, or music history tests. Written tests will be graded by the number of responses on each test.

Playing tests will be graded on one or all of four performance technique areas:

Intonation – the ability to play in tune, with correct finger placement in all hand positions

Rhythm – the ability to keep an appropriate tempo, maintains the steady beat, and gives each note and rest the appropriate amount of time

Score Markings – using marked directions in the music to play with correct bowings, dynamics, and style

Tone Quality – having the ability to produce a beautiful sound on the instrument by having correct bow placement and pressure, correct finger pressure, and over-all facility in playing.

(*Please refer to the rubrics for these performance techniques to see how each test will be graded.*)

Performance Points:

Students will be expected to accumulate 100 performance points each quarter. These points may be earned in a variety of ways. The grade for each quarter will be calculated by dividing the number of points earned by the number of points required. (*Please refer to the Performance Points Description/Quarter Requirements to see how this policy will be implemented.*)