

Graves County High School
Course: Jazz Band
Instructor: Jeff Williams
Phone: 328-6242 or 674-6242 ext. 2311
e-mail: jeff.williams@graves.kyschools.us
Credit: 1
Grade Level: 10-12
Prerequisite: Teacher Approval

Course Description: Jazz Band provides students with the opportunity of learning a variety of jazz styles, jazz history, and theory. Collective performances various concerts, and festivals. Individual performance opportunities include All-State Jazz Band.

Because of the way that the course is structured, occasional after school rehearsals are necessary. Participation in ALL performances and rehearsals is necessary and required.

Performance Standards:

The students will:

- Maintain at least a 70 average
- Adhere to the attendance policy set forth in the student handbook
- Participate in all playing tests
- Adhere to ALL classroom rules/procedures listed below
- Have no unexcused absences from any rehearsal throughout the grading period
- Have no unexcused absences for any performance throughout the grading period
- Return completed verification form signed by parent/guardian AND student

Method of Grade Calculation:

- Rehearsals are worth 50 points each
- All other grades will be worth 100 points and will be recorded one, two, or three times – depending upon the relative importance of that performance/activity
- Weekly participation grade is worth 25 points per week
- The student’s final grade will be determined by dividing the *total points earned* by the student by the *total points possible*.
- The FINAL EXAM will be worth 10% of the final grade

Extra Credit Opportunities:

- All-State Tryouts 50 points
- Approved Concert Attendance 5 points per concert (with program)

Uniform: TBA

Jazz Letter: All students who successfully complete jazz band will receive a jazz band letter. Successful completion includes acceptable participation (including no unexcused absences from rehearsals or performances) in all jazz band activities and no discipline referrals.

Attendance Policy:

The jazz band attendance policy is very simple:

- Your presence is necessary and expected
- As attendance (at rehearsals and performances) is a Performance Standard, an UNEXCUSED absence will result in a failing grade for that grading period
- A second UNEXCUSED absence from a rehearsal will result in the student not being allowed to perform in the next performance. However, the student's presence at that performance will be required and other responsibilities will be assigned.
- A third UNEXCUSED absence from a rehearsal will result in the student not being allowed to perform with the band for the remainder of that grading period.
- An UNEXCUSED absence from a performance will result in the student not being allowed to perform with the band for the remainder of that grading period.

NOTE: For an absence to be excused it must be cleared AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE by completing an *Absence Request Form* (included).

NOTE: WORK IS NEVER EXCUSED

NOTE: Simply completing the absence request form does not guarantee the absence will be excused.

NOTE: If the absence is excused, the student will be required to make up all of the time Missed within two weeks.

NOTE: Obviously emergencies arise and will be considered on an individual basis.

Classroom Procedures:

- See rules in Student Handbook
- No gum, candy, food or drink (except bottled water)
- Be punctual
- Be Prepared
 - Music/Method Books
 - Pencil
 - Instrument/Equipment
 - Good Attitude
- Respect is Expected
 - Adults
 - Peers
 - Other Schools
 - Equipment / Facilities

Tentative monthly timeline:

August – Sightread music; Jazz fundamentals (Jazz Essential Elements); Evolution of Jazz

September – Same as August

October – Same as September + Group Project

November – Same as October + Christmas Concert Preparation

December – Same as November + various public performances and basketball games; Midterm

January – Preparation for elementary tour, various public performances and basketball games

February – Same as January

March – Same as February + *A Taste of Jazz* Preparation

April – Same as March + *A Taste of Jazz*

May – Various public performances and Final Exam

The Pride of Graves County **Absence Request Form**

(To be completed by Parent/Guardian and Student)

STUDENT NAME: _____
(Please Print Clearly) First Name Last Name

PARENT/GUARDIAN: _____
(Please Print Clearly) First Name Last Name

REQUEST EXCUSE FOR: ABSENCE TARDINESS EARLY LEAVE
(Circle one of the above)

FROM WHICH ACTIVITY: _____

DATE (Month/Day/Year): _____

DATE SUBMITTED: _____

INFORM SECTION LEADER: YES NO

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

REASON (Be VERY specific. Vagueness may cause the request to be denied. One-word answers will not be enough!!!):

APPROVED

DENIED

This form requires the Parent/Guardian's Signature for validation. This form must be delivered to Mr. Williams' office. **The mere act of submitting this form does NOT guarantee your absence will be approved!** Forms must be turned in at least 24 hours PRIOR to Absence, Tardiness, or Early Leave. If Absence, Tardiness, or Early Leave is for medical reasons, a physician's note must be turned in within 48 hours.

Acknowledgement Form:

By completing and returning the following form, you are acknowledging that you and your child have read and understand the expectations for *Jazz Band*, and that your child must complete ALL Performance Standards in order to pass this course.

PARENT /GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE