



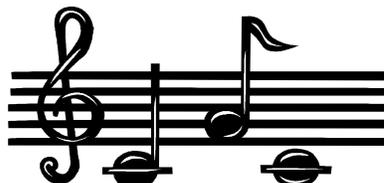
Welcome and congratulations on choosing to be a part of the Elsinore-Luiseno ROAR Band program! By making this decision you have become a very important part of our school's music education and performance organizations. As with all things worthwhile, membership in our band program demands time, energy, discipline, dedication, excellence, teamwork and commitment. I hope that your adventure will help you grow not only as a musician but also as a person. Music is a source of vast amounts of information and enjoyment that will be with you always. In every organization there are certain guidelines and procedures that will make the group more productive. This handbook is provided to give everyone a basic outline of what your commitment is to the school and to **YOUR** band program, and will explain how I am going to help you find those rewards and discover the joy of music.

I hope you enjoy your musical studies here. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. There are two convenient ways to reach me:

1. Email (preferred) jeannine.dinger@leusd.k12.ca.us
2. School phone (951) 674-0750 Luiseno/(951)674-2118 Elsinore

Musically Yours,

Mrs. Jeannine Dinger
Director of Tiger and Leopard Bands,
Luiseno and Elsinore Middle School



Course Objectives and Expectations

OBJECTIVES

To teach and train students to become more proficient with their individual instrument and help them to achieve a high level of progress in their performance and sight-reading of music. This is considered a pre-requisite for high school band and performance groups. The students are also expected to gain an understanding of the California State Music Standards.

TIME FACTOR

This level of achievement can be reached by some students before high school. However, others will need more time to attain this goal. Our purpose in the Beginning and the Advanced Band is to achieve as much as possible for all the students within the time allowed.

EXPECTATIONS

1. Each student will be expected to practice diligently every day outside of school for at least 30 minutes.
2. Each student will be responsible for his or her own instrument rental or purchase.(Except if granted a school instrument) Each student will also be responsible for maintaining their instruments and having the correct supplies: reeds, valve oil, neck strap, etc.
3. Each student will be expected to achieve a high order of self-discipline both in the classroom and all school band functions.
4. Each student will be responsible for treating all fellow students, school staff, instruments, all music and property with the utmost respect.

5. Each student using a school owned instrument will be responsible for its repair and care.

Rehearsals, Instruments and Work Habits

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals are a very important part of becoming a better musician. When our time is used to its fullest potential, we gain knowledge, skill and self-pride. Always be ready for every practice session by having all of the necessary music, being positive and mentally prepared. Courtesy to everyone, including yourself, goes a long way to make any rehearsal more fun and productive. *Once performance music has been given to students they are expected to practice and learn the music in their folders.*

There will be times when extra rehearsals or sectional practices are scheduled. Mandatory attendance is expected at these events for all students.. Everyone will be given ample time to schedule these activities. These extra rehearsals or sectional rehearsals allow for many things not attainable during the regular rehearsal period and benefit the entire organization. Our band schedule is a very challenging situation. It takes focused preparation and attendance for concerts and festivals from all of our band members. If you are unable to attend a rehearsal or concert, it is required procedure to contact Mrs. Dinger **PRIOR** to the event. **Unexcused absences will result in a loss of points and jeopardize the student's participation in band events.** An unexcused absence is defined as one that was not cleared in writing before the rehearsal or performance. Two weeks of notification is recommended. There will be assignments given for all missed events. See guideline page.

INSTRUMENTS

Forgetting an instrument, not having it in working order or not having appropriate reeds* are NOT a valid excuses. **If your instrument is not working properly, students must show it**

to Mrs. Dinger *immediately*. If Mrs. Dinger cannot fix the instrument problem, it must be taken to a qualified repair shop as soon as possible. Always inquire about borrowing a “loaner” from the music store while the instrument is under repair. Parents must inform Mrs. Dinger that an instrument is in the shop with a written note or phone call. *Students who do not bring required materials to class will not earn their daily participation points.*

**Woodwinds:* The school does not provide reeds for free. Students who play clarinet, saxophone, oboe or bassoon are expected to plan in advance to have enough reeds to participate each day. Reeds wear out with use or mistreatment, so always have 3-4 spare reeds in your case at all times. *Cracked or chipped reeds are unacceptable and may not be used.*

WORK HABITS

Work habits include attendance, participation and effort. This will be reflected in the student’s letter grade. Students are expected to give their best effort at all times. This also includes proper preparation for class by having the following on their person or their music stands at the beginning of every class. Being prepared will increase your class work grade.

1. A PENCIL AT EVERY CLASS OR REHEARSAL!
2. An organized notebook or band folder with plastic sheet protectors.
3. NOTE: Electronic devices are not permitted during the school day i.e. cell phones, iPods, hand held games etc.

PRACTICE TIPS

1. If possible, seek out private lessons. Upper classmen that you might know at the high schools are perfect! They know a lot and would be grateful for the money! (Most would do a 30 minute lesson for \$10.) Some might do it for community service hours. We will try and set up a mentor program at the school with band students from Temescal Canyon High School.

2. Set up a daily schedule and location for practice time.
3. Set goals for improvement (short-term and long-term goals).
4. When practicing, concentrate and focus on what you are doing (Do not listen to TV or other music while practicing).
5. Relax and practice diligently.
6. Practice longer on the more difficult music. Don't just play the easy ones that you like.
7. Play everything as if you are giving a concert.
8. Try not to be hard on yourself. Things will get better if you keep trying your best.
9. Be positive about what you are doing. A good attitude will to create a good performance.

Remember: that the dedication you put into practicing will help in every aspect of your life.

NOTE: Everyone should practice at least 30 minutes per day. It is better to play everyday instead of playing one day for a long time. Practice is like learning to talk again. You are learning new vocabulary, training muscles and developing your vocal sound.

Remember: you don't have to practice everyday, only on the days you eat!

GRADING GUIDELINES AND EXTRA CREDIT

GRADING GUIDELINES

Students will be graded on individual achievement, discipline in and out of the classroom, levels of proficiency and progress, written and playing tests, desire/attitude and director's expectations of student's capabilities.

Grading for all band classes will be based a variety of grading criteria.

Daily participation	20%
Practice records	20%
Playing tests (music, scales)	10%
Music Theory	10%
Performances	40%

Assignments for missed concerts/activities will be a choice:

1. Two page written report with bibliography. The topic is chosen by Mrs. Dinger.
2. Student will perform their parts of the concert music by themselves in front of the entire band.

EXTRA CREDIT

A hand-written report can be completed for extra credit (50 points), if approved by Mrs. Dinger. The paper must be one page or more, readable and in correct writing format. Sources are to be included. It can be on any of the following subject areas:

- Any music event in the area including middle school and high school band/jazz band/choir concerts
- Live musical concerts (not rock concerts)
- Classical composers
- Music History

GIVE YOUR BEST AT ALL TIMES AND YOU WILL DO VERY WELL!!!

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Classroom behavior is expected to be impeccable at all times. Poor classroom behavior will result in loss of participation points. Extra assignments will be given, parent conferences, loss of solo or leadership role, loss of the privilege of performing with the band and accompanying the band on any field trips are some possible consequences.

GENERAL CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

- Be respectful
- Be diligent
- Be on time (to work and to class)
- Be attentive
- Be on-task
- You may have water in a sealed bottle in the classroom. Food and other drinks are not allowed in the classroom, unless stored in your backpack. **Gum is not allowed** on the school grounds or classroom.

DISCIPLINE

1. I will listen to students who raise their hand, and I will listen to one person at a time.
2. I allow students to remain in my classroom as long as they do not cause a problem for anyone else. Act positive, think positive, BE positive!
3. If anyone causes a problem, I will ask them to fix it.
4. If they cannot or will not fix it, I will.
5. What I do will depend on the unique situation.

6. Examples are to call home immediately, fast exit to the office, referral.

Luiseno and Elsinore Middle follows the "R.O.A.R" motto:

Respect
Organization
Attitude
Responsibility

INSTRUMENT LOCKERS

Instrument storage will be available to each student. Students are able to drop off their instruments in the morning, and pick them up after school. It is expected that students will respect the property of their fellow band members. PLEASE MARK YOUR INSTRUMENT WITH YOUR NAME.

UNIFORMS

Band is team work so looking like a team helps us to perform as one. Everyone will be in uniform at all performances. Students out of uniform will NOT be allowed to perform and will lose points.

Beginning and Advanced Band:

All concerts: White shirt (tucked in), black pants and black shoes and socks. Ladies may wear a black skirt (calf length) and a white blouse or an all black dress that reaches the calves. (dresses and skirts pull up when sitting down). Black dress shoes. Ties for men! Absolutely no jeans, T-shirts, shorts or tank tops!

On occasion we will be wearing our band polo shirts. (purchased from the school), black dress pants, black socks and black shoes. Black dress pants could be black Dickies. No Vans or

converse. We may be issuing school marching band uniforms. (TBA)

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is a necessary part of the music program. During the year there will be fundraising opportunities. There is also the option of donating directly to the Band and will be gladly accepted. More information about fundraising will be presented during the school year.

DURING SCHOOL DAY EVENTS **PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

Students that want to participate in events during the school day or other band trips/festivals must meet the following requirements:

1. Overall GPA of 2.5 or above
2. Grade of "C" or better in Band
3. No "F's" in any classes
4. No major or continual behavioral problems
5. Be able to demonstrate mastery of all music

Lake Elsinore Unified School District **Essential Music Standard**

1.0 Basic Music Theory Processing, Analyzing, and Responding to Sensory Information

Through the Language and Skills Unique to Music Students read, notate, listen to, analyze, and describe music and other aural information, using the terminology of music. Read and Notate Music

- 1.1 Read and write, musical notes.
- 1.2 Knowledge of musical terms and symbols in use of music notation.
 - 1.3 Read, write, and perform rhythmic and melodic notation.
 - 1.4 Understand and use major scales.
 - 1.5 Sight-read accurately and expressively.

Listen to, Analyze, and Describe Music

1.1 Analyze and compare the use of musical elements representing various genres, styles, and cultures, with an emphasis on chords and harmonic progressions.

2.0 CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Creating, Performing, and Participating in Music

Students apply vocal and instrumental musical skills in performing a varied repertoire of music.

Apply Vocal and Instrumental Skills

2.1 Sing a repertoire of vocal literature representing various genres, styles, and cultures with expression, technical accuracy, tone quality, vowel shape, and articulation written and memorized, by oneself and in ensembles.

2.2 Sing music written in two, or three.

2.3 Perform on an instrument a repertoire of instrumental literature representing various genres, styles, and cultures with expression, technical accuracy, tone quality, and articulation, by oneself and in ensembles.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A WINNING BAND

Members understand what it means for the band to be successful. They know when they are doing the right things, at the right times in the right way.

Members have some role in guiding the band program. The director needs to trust member's abilities to provide valuable input and be alert to their perspective members.

Members make a commitment to achieving success - they "buy in." The director communicates where he hopes to lead the band and members respond with, "If that's where you are going, then count me in."

Everyone understands their role and how it relates in fulfilling the band's purpose. Knowledge of the way the band's structure functions is vital for leaders and members alike. The director exhibits dynamic leadership and the members exhibit dynamic "followship".

The band knows what the cost is and what the rewards are. People do their best when they know up front what it will take to get the job done and what is waiting for them at the end.

They are given the tools and preparation to be effective band members. Once the director sets a course for the band, members are

obligated to do everything in their power to give the band what it needs to be the best it can be.

They know how to respond when things do not go as planned. In the long run, things don't always go the way that we expect them to. This possibility is discussed so everyone knows how to handle the unexpected when it arises. Be willing to adapt to any situation.

Every step back is acknowledged and used for gain. It is certainly not wise to dwell on setbacks, but it is even less wise to ignore them. Disappointments can provide great learning opportunities.

They celebrate every victory, and every step forward is celebrated. When the band does something well - whether big or small - they rejoice and give themselves hearty congratulations!

ATTITUDE

By Charles Swindoll

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life.

Attitude, to me, is more important than facts.

It is more important than the past, than education, than money,
than circumstances, than failures than successes,
than what people say or do.

It is more important than appearances giftedness or skill.

It will make or break a company ... a church ... a home.

The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding
the attitude we will embrace for that day.

We cannot change our past...

We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way.

We cannot change the inevitable.

The only thing we can do is play on the one string that we have,
and that is our attitude ...

I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and

90% how I react to it.

And so it is with you ... we are all in charge of our ATTITUDE!"

WHY MUSIC?

MUSIC IS SCIENCE

It is exact, specific, and it demands exact acoustics. The music is a chart, a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.

MUSIC IS MATHEMATICAL

It is rhythmically based on the subdivisions of the time into fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.

MUSIC IS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Most of the terms are in Italian, German or French, and the notation is certainly not English. It is a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complete and universal language.

MUSIC IS HISTORY

Music usually reflects the environment and times of its creation, often even the country and/or racial feeling.

MUSIC IS PHYSICAL EDUCATION

It requires fantastic coordination of breathing, posture, lips, tongue, mouth, and facial muscles. In addition, music requires an extraordinary control of the diaphragmatic, back, stomach and chest muscles. In which all respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets while playing.

MUSIC IS ART

It allows a human being to take all these dry, technically boring (yet difficult) techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: feelings or emotions.

ROAR BAND STUDENT COMMITMENT/AGREEMENT

Band: (circle one) Beginning-Advanced Grade_____ Period_____

- I will understand that we will play a variety of exercises and music and I am WILLING to play all types of music.
- I understand that I am required to attend all extra rehearsals and all concerts, and will have the appropriate uniform for all performances. To be excused from a function, I will notify Mrs. Dinger in writing PRIOR to the activity.
- All extra rehearsals and concerts are MANDATORY.
- I understand that there will be make up work for any missed activity
- Any unexcused absence from a performance could result in my grade being lowered.
- Any students suspended from school on the day of a concert will not be allowed to participate.
- I will receive a calendar of events. It is my responsibility to keep track of when I have an activity and arrange to be there.
- I will work to be the best musician I can be, including practicing and learning all my parts so I can help the band be the best it can be.
- I will participate to the best of my ability each day, including marking my music, good posture, and being a positive participator in each activity.
- I will behave in a manner that will help the band learn as much as possible. I will also conduct myself outside of the band room in a manner that will not jeopardize my standing in band, or the band's standing in the school and the community.
- I will remember that people react to us by "how we look, how we behave and then how we play."
- If at any time I feel I cannot uphold this contract, I will make an appointment with Mrs. Dinger to discuss my alternatives.

Student's name _____
Please print

Student signature

Parent's signature

Date

In an effort to improve our communication for the band, we are creating a group email list so that information regarding band can be sent. Please write your e-mail address in the space provided below. It will be sent in a groups mailing and not be available to other band members. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Parents email address _____

Students email address _____