



Chaminade Instrumental Music Information

Cynthia Snyder – Parent Meeting

Chaminade's instrumental music program is designed to create lifelong musicians and friendships. School concerts, Band Festival competitions, Disneyland and community events are part of our usual performance schedule. Bringing home a big trophy is great, but not a requirement. Most importantly, we work hard and have a lot of fun!

Advantages of Band

Learning Organization
Better Grades
Friendships
Abstract Thinking
Leadership
Out of Trouble

SmartMusic - All Classes – provided by Chaminade

SmartMusic includes access to 100's of music books, solos and song titles like Star Wars, Harry Potter, La, La Land and can be played while being accompanied by a full ensemble. It also includes both a **metronome** and **tuner** which individually would be ~\$80. Students can hear how they sound through a recording and see picture of their performance. You can click on a note and it shows the fingering for the instrument. It is an amazing program!!! Learn more at www.SmartMusic.com.

SmartMusic should be included in students' **scheduled practice time**. It helps motivate & keeps track of students' progress. **SmartMusic** is available once you **log in** and sign up for the corresponding Chaminade Band/Orchestra Class. **Chaminade** is **providing** this program for you.

Mini Lessons will be a combination of **flipgrid** and **SmartMusic** to show help needed and progress. **Difficult** smartmusic practice assignments are not to demonstrate perfection. It is always to see if students are approaching practicing/learning music as instructed.

Parents and students submit **SmartMusic/Flipgrid assignments together initially to understand how it works**. Then students can give their parents a link for future submissions. Both parent & student must know if assignment is **complete** and **accepted** for all assignments.

It is important to have the account working so I won't miss transferring the credit of assignments completed over to grades. If there is a **SmartMusic** issue, contact **SmartMusic** first by email and copy me. The **SmartMusic** Hotline is 1 **866 240 4041**

Band Lockers

We have instrument lockers in the Chaminade MS Band Room for student use. Music books and a student's instrument should be stored in the lockers. (No food/beverage) The room is locked when not in use. Students can bring class books to the band room.

Homework & Practice

Students need to have a **consistent** and **regular** time to practice just like your dietary needs. This will help them with managing their schoolwork, guide them to be balanced emotionally, and establish very good habits.

Set-up a homework schedule for your child – 20 minutes for every subject or class
For band classes, each student needs to practice the difficult measures of the music we play or are going to play in class

Best scenario – 30 minutes a day practicing specific things eg. Slurs or tone

Alternatives – 30 minutes every other day, 15 minutes a day, everyday

If and when your child gets overwhelmed or experiences any challenge, have them talk to Ms. Snyder IN PERSON. If parents want to help their child try to talk to Ms. Snyder, parents can e-mail Ms. Snyder with the child's name as the subject.

Homework is playing your instrument. **SmartMusic** is a great tool to help practice.

Grade – Students who have points missing from their grade can always make it up.
Mondays from 3-3:30 students can make up missing work.

Use X-Block Wisely

Students can use this time to plan and strategize the rest of their day and/or night. It's a good idea to start some homework, read or approach teachers for help or ask questions. Do not take it for granted. Don't always expect to have X-block available to do everything. By quarter 4, X-block is often used for assemblies, testing, rallies, award ceremonies, etc. X-block is **BONUS** time!!! Figure out what you are going to do, get your ducks in a row, execute your study plan and homework strategy.

Grading

Participation

Attitude & Effort

Responsibility – organization/Homework/pencil

Performance – **Concerts, SmartMusic, In Class**

Theory Book progress

Volunteers – clearance needed

I cannot do this alone! Are you looking for your moment of zen? Filing may be tedious and unpleasant, but it's necessary for the students to play the music of their dreams. It's important for me to focus on teaching and prepping for students instead of filing.

Ensemble Band Parent (before or after school)

Concert assistant – coordinate volunteers & events

Chaperone trips – day event

Events – **Homecoming, Open House, Family Fun Night, Graduation**

Weekly – File, make copies, organize band room, special projects