**Course Description**

Modern Band is a new school-based music program that utilizes popular music as its central canon. Modern Band teaches students to perform the music they know and love and to compose and improvise. Styles that are studied include rock, pop, reggae, hip-hop, rhythm & blues, classical, electronic dance music, and other contemporary styles as they emerge. Modern Band also utilizes (but is not limited to) the musical instruments that are common to these genres: guitar, bass, drums, piano, voice and technology. We will start the year learning the traditional classical guitar to develop appropriate technique.

Students will work individually and in a group setting. Students will be responsible to keep up with the daily lessons as there will be daily evaluations.

**Course Text**

<http://jamzone.littlekidsrock.org/>

**Course Learning Objectives**

**Year One**

1. Develop appropriate playing technique on a variety of instruments
2. Develop music reading skills
3. Compose you own music
4. Perform (WE WILL PERFROM ONCE PER SEMESTER)

**Supplies**

* **One pocket folder for handouts**
* **Pencil**

**Class Procedure**

The class will be broken up into sections of lecture, group practice, and individual practice.

**Course Rules**

**Respect:** Show respect for your learning environment and the people in it. Only one person talking at a time. Beginning piano is challenging and mistakes are expected! An encouraging and supportive environment will make learning piano more enjoyable and rewarding.

**Effort:** Maximize every opportunity to learn. There are many factors that go into learning an instrument.

**Responsibility:** Be on time. **Folders:** It is CRUCIAL that students bring their folders to every class. Failure to bring your binder will negatively impact your daily evaluation grade. (see **supply** list above)

**Order of disciplinary action:**

* Verbal warning
* Discussion with teacher
* Call home/Note Home
* Referral

**Evaluation**

**Grades:**

**Daily evaluations: 30%**

**Performance tests: 50%**

**Theory: 20%**

**A=90-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69**

1. **Daily Evaluations:** There will be daily evaluations by the students and teacher on notes, rhythms, chords, technique, active participation and performance. Effort will be judged by diligence in practicing, mastery of concepts, and willingness to perform.
2. **Performance Tests:** There will be regular performance tests, announced ahead of time, where students will play assigned piece for a grade.
3. **Theory:** There will be one written music theory test each card marking.

Please fill out the information below and return with your student on 9/4/19. A copy of this syllabus is on the website [www.cassorchestra.weebly.com](http://www.cassorchestra.weebly.com). **It’s going to be a great year!!**

Educationally yours,

Ms. Burrows

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Parent/Guardian Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(please print)

Parent/Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please print clearly. This will be the primary way I will communicate with you. Thanks!