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## Philosophy

Everyone is innately musical. As such, music is for everyone, and the study of music in school can help us to grow closer with others as well as discover ourselves. Music is a unique facet of education because it engages the whole of a performer; their mind, body, and heart. Beyond engagement with the technical requirements of the instrument and the intellectual demands of learning this Universal language, young musicians must give of themselves, creating new meaning or reviving essential truths that can only be communicated through sound. Music is also demanding- an ensemble aspires to a singularly high standard of performance, the outcome of which can be affected by any member of the group. This makes the orchestra a dynamic community of learners who are drawn closer together even as they travel further on their own voyages of individual musical discovery.

## Instructional Objectives

**Physical** - The program will provide activities that promote the development of both fine and gross motor skills and to help the adolescent understand and adapt to physical changes as part of their development.

**Social** - The program will provide a climate for the acceptance and understanding of the individual through participation in a group situation and to give students the opportunity to develop responsible behavior while representing the school and community.

**Emotional** - The program will provide students with a vehicle of self-expression through music and to provide an atmosphere in which students can develop an awareness of their reactions and sensitivity to the arts.

**Intellectual** - The program will provide an atmosphere that encourages creative exploration and study of the historical and cultural relationships that exist between music and other subject matters and that challenges students to learn the cognitive reading and music theory skills necessary for music literacy.

**Outcome Skills** - The program will provide classroom and performance experiences that demonstrates student achievement in curricular outcomes and to provide the educational opportunities necessary to prepare the student for successful participation in music classes and activities beyond the classroom.

## Grading

### 40% = Concert and Dress Rehearsal Attendance –

**Concerts-** Because one of the goals of a musical ensemble class is to perform for an audience, students will attend and participate in all orchestra concerts/performances, including the Nevada Music Educators Association's (NMEA) Solo & Ensemble Festival. There are rare exceptions to this rule. If a conflict arises, ***the student must pre-arrange the absence with the teacher at least two weeks prior to the concert*** so that an alternate assignment can be planned and given to the student. The "Excused Absence & Alternate Assignment Request" form can be found at the end of this document.

**Dress Rehearsals-** These rehearsals, ***including after school rehearsals***, exist to allow the orchestra to combine classes and practice in venues that may not be available during the school day in order to perform with confidence and artistry. Attendance is mandatory.

**25% = Regular Rehearsals**– Daily rehearsal attendance is essential to the orchestra and the individual musician. The student must be in their seat and warming up **before** the bell rings for class; failure to do so will result in a disruption of the class and consequently a lowered grade for the day and a Tardy designation. Since an orchestra cannot grow without participation from all members, absences- **including excused absences**- will result in a reduced participation grade. These points can be made up by the student attending additional IC/FS sectionals, the after school PAC period, or by taking private lessons.

**10% = Playing Quizzes/Tests** – Students will play performance quizzes/tests before the teacher in a private audition setting. If a student is absent on the day of a quiz/test, ***it is that student's responsibility*** to arrange a time to perform for the Director outside of school hours.

**10% = Theory/Rhythm Assignments/Quizzes/Tests** – Written worksheets/quizzes/tests and/or other assignments will be given. Late assignments will not be accepted unless the student had an excused absence on the due date. In that case, the assignment will be due exactly one week later.

**15% = Final Exam** – Given at the end of the semester, this required exam may include performance and written sections

**Extra Credit** – There are certain opportunities for extra credit, given on a case by case basis. Students may approach the teacher with an assignment proposal which will, if deemed appropriate, be further defined and expanded on by the teacher for credit.

## Citizenship Grading Distribution

Please refer to the DRHS student handbook for more information.

The driving force behind the citizenship grade in orchestra is to help students learn professional behavior that is expected of musicians. Students will receive one point for every class in the grading quarter. This grade can be monitored through Infinite Campus and will not impact the academic portion of the orchestra grade. Students will earn three citizenship points per class period. The points will be divided into the following categories:

**Preparedness** – Students will be prepared for class. Below are some negative behaviors that will prevent students from earning their daily Preparedness points:

- Tardy to class – Musicians who are late to professional gigs and rehearsals are often fired or have their pay docked. In order to be counted as being “on time”, students must be seated, ready for tuning, and warming up on their instrument when the bell rings.
- Unexcused absences – when any member of the group is absent, the performance and learning of the entire ensemble is affected. Musicians who do not show up to professional gigs and rehearsals are usually fired.
- No pencil – A pencil is necessary to make performance notes on the music. The professional musician never uses ink on music, as it cannot be erased if further changes to the music are necessary.
- No instrument
- No music
- Excessive passes to the restroom, locker, etc. – Leaving in the middle of a rehearsal disrupts the performance, learning, and achievement of an ensemble. If a trip to the restroom is required, the student will be allowed to go but will not earn their participation point for that day. A pass received from the office will not count negatively against a student. Students leaving the classroom for any reason must sign out on the orchestra clipboard prior to exiting the classroom. After the student has signed out on the clipboard, the student can present the filled out planner for the teacher to sign. Upon returning to the classroom, the student must sign-in on the orchestra clipboard.
- No planner, no pass. Since the DRHS planner also functions as a calendar, it is required in orchestra so that dates and assignments can be entered as they arise during class to keep the student and parents/guardians advised of upcoming concerts, rehearsals, quizzes, tests, etc.
- Backpack/large purse not in proper place – All backpacks and large purses must be stored in either the student’s locker or in the instrument storage cabinet during class. A “Large Purse” is defined as anything larger than the DRHS planner.

**Participation** – Students will actively participate in orchestra. Below are some negative behaviors that will prevent students from earning their daily Participation points:

- Sleeping or attempting to sleep in class
- Reading non-orchestra books or doing non-orchestra homework during class
- Eating in the classroom – Participating in a musical ensemble is a dynamic activity that requires the full effort of each player. Out of respect for the ensemble, the music, and the instruments, food is not allowed in the orchestra classroom. This includes chewing gum.
- Drinking in the classroom – Clear water is the only beverage allowed in the orchestra room.

**Behavior** – Students will behave according to the policies outlined in the Damonte Ranch handbook as well as any behavior policies outlined by the orchestra teacher. Violation may result in a break detention and/or a visit to the Student Support Office. Below are some negative behaviors that will prevent students from earning their daily Behavior points:

- Cell phone – There is no need for cell phones to be out during class time unless specifically indicated by the teacher. In the classroom, there is a wall clock to tell time and a landline phone for emergencies. Students are instructed to turn their phones to the off position and secure them prior to entering the classroom. Parents/guardians, please refrain from calling/texting your students during class time. If you need to send your child a message or have an emergency, please call the main office at 775-677-5499. They will relay the information to the student during class in a way that does not disrupt instruction. Cell phones must be stored out of sight from the moment the student walks in the classroom until the student leaves the room. **Failure to comply with this school rule will result in immediate confiscation of the phone/music device and may require the parent/guardian to come to school to retrieve the device from the Student Support Office.** See WCSD policy (SUP-P003) for more information.
- Music playing device & headphones – In an effort to prevent theft and disruption of instruction, students are instructed to secure their music playing devices & headphones prior to entering the classroom. Headphones may not remain around the student’s neck as the cords can become tangled in the instrument and bow. These devices, including headphones, must be stored out of sight from the moment the student walks in the classroom until the student leaves the room. **Failure to comply with this school rule will result in immediate confiscation of the phone/music device and may require the parent/guardian to come to school to retrieve the device from the Student Support Office.** See WCSD policy (SUP-P003) for more information.
- Inappropriate language – Swearing and name calling of any kind are not considered professional behavior for the orchestra classroom.

## The Orchestras

Damonte Ranch High School has three orchestras: **Concert Orchestra** is primarily for freshmen but is open to all other orchestra students; **Sinfonia Orchestra** is intended for students in grades 10-12, but is open to freshmen who are already exceptional performers and choose to take an audition. Freshmen are not admitted to this class at this time. **Chamber Orchestra** is an audition-only group open to upperclassmen who have displayed extensive musical knowledge, technical skills, and leadership ability.

## Materials for Orchestra

The following items are required and must be brought to every class. The items can be purchased from any local music store, or from Shar Music ([www.sharmusic.com](http://www.sharmusic.com)). Let it be known that Ebay and similar websites are not appropriate places to shop for so-called “deals”.

**The school will NOT provide any of the items listed below – even if the student has rented a school instrument.**

- \* Pencil
- \* Rosin
- \* Tuner
- \* Mute (Orchestral, not Solo)
- \* Shoulder rest (violin and viola only)
- \* Extra strings (violin/viola/cello) \*(A student who must replace a broken string is expected to do so before the next rehearsal.)
- \* Cleaning cloth (a clean old sock or washcloth is acceptable)

## Class Fees

There is a \$10 lab fee for orchestra. This fee is to be paid to the DRHS bookkeeper in the main office.

## Instrument Rental and Storage

**School Instruments** – Any student using a school instrument is required to pay the WCSD \$50 semester instrument rental fee (including cellists and bassists). Payment can be made to the DRHS bookkeeper in the main office. Please make checks out to “Damonte Ranch High School” A signed rental agreement must be returned to the director by the second week of class. Every effort will be made to provide cellists and bassists with an instrument to keep at home for practice purposes, but the ability to do this will vary from year to year. Those unable to pay the entire \$50 (per semester) at one time may arrange to make payments with the DRHS bookkeeper.

**Instrument Storage** – Students who bring their personal instruments to school may choose to store them in room 143 while attending other classes. The student’s name should be on EVERY item owned by him/her. This includes: instrument, bow, case (inside & outside), rosin, mute, cleaning cloth, rock stop, shoulder rest, extra strings, folder, etc. The similarity of some items makes it difficult to establish ownership unless a name appears on the item. DRHS does not take any responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged instruments owned by students. INSTRUMENTS ARE NOT TO BE LEFT AT SCHOOL OVERNIGHT.

## Practice

Ensemble growth cannot take place without individual practice. Practicing takes the place of the “homework” that is assigned in other subject areas and reinforces the skills and concepts learned in the classroom. Students are expected to practice daily, with the goal of working out specific excerpts, rather than playing through entire pieces. Disciplined, focused practice takes less time and is much more effective than timed practice sessions where unfocused students merely wait for the clock to run out. With this expectation for regular home practice, instruments may not be left at school overnight. Cellists and bassists that do not have an instrument at home are expected to either commute with their instrument or practice before school. All the things being worked on in class should be practiced at home including: warm-up exercises, scales, technique books, performance pieces, solos, ensembles, etc. Specific assignments will be written in the planner by the student.

## NMEA Solo & Ensemble

The Nevada Music Educators Association’s Local Solo & Ensemble Festival is a recommended event for all DRHS Orchestra students. At the event, students will play a solo for an adjudicator who will evaluate the performance and provide written comments. Students who receive a Superior rating at Local are eligible to move on to the Regional S&E festival. Students who receive a Superior rating at Regional may be eligible to move on to the All-State S&E Festival. Music for Solo & Ensemble will be chosen by the student with the assistance of private teachers or the orchestra director. See the Orchestra Calendar for dates.

## WCSD Senior Honor Orchestra & NMEA All-State Honor Orchestra

The WCSD Senior Honor Orchestra is an auditioned group of the highest performing students across the school district. All interested DRHS orchestra students are welcome to audition for these group, and it is required that Chamber Orchestra students participate in these events. Students who are chosen to participate in the WCSD Honor Orchestra are eligible to audition for the NMEA All-State Honor Orchestra. See the Orchestra Calendar for audition and rehearsal dates.

### Sheet Music

Sheet music is loaned to the student for home/school practice and performance and must be returned to Damonte Ranch when requested. When given new music, the student should immediately file the new music in their folder. There is a fee for lost or damaged sheet music. All marks made in the music must be made with pencil. An orchestral textbook may be checked out by any student, and is to be kept in the student's folder. Do not write in this book. There is a fee for a lost or damaged method book and, if it should be incurred, will be billed to the student by DRHS.

### Communication

All students and parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to check Infinite Campus for orchestra information and grades. Infinite Campus and the Damonte Orchestra website ([damonteorchestra.weebly.com](http://damonteorchestra.weebly.com)) will be the primary modes of communication. Students who do not have internet access at home should inform the director that they need to receive hard copies of information.

### Teacher Supervision

Orchestra students are welcome to stay at school with the director on concert days instead of going home, if the director is available. However, these students must sign in and stay with the orchestra teacher at all times. They may not freely roam the school. For the safety of the instruments, **non-orchestra students should not be in the orchestra classroom** unless on specific business.

### Fundraising

Raising funds is essential to the success and longevity of any school music program. Therefore, all orchestra students will be expected to participate in fundraising events. Students are also invited to raise funds independently.

### Parent/Guardian Involvement/Volunteers

Parents and Guardians are essential to the success of not only the school music program but also individual student achievement. Please encourage your student to practice his or her instrument daily as well as to complete and turn in homework for all classes. You make a difference. Your child needs your support and encouragement-- however, it is vital that these practice sessions take place in an environment free of distractions, interruptions, or unwelcome comments, so that your child feels safe as they explore their artistry and develop their technique.

Parents and Guardians that are interested are welcome to volunteer their time and energy to aide the orchestra in many ways that can be found at the bottom of the Orchestra Student Contract. Due to safety concerns, WCSD requires that all in-classroom volunteers such as chaperones and guest artists go through a background check, and fingerprinting may be involved as well. There is no cost to the volunteer. Please check the Orchestra website for volunteer directions and forms.

## Concert Attire

### Background

Part of participation in a music ensemble is observing the proper standards of concert attire. Proper concert dress demonstrates respect for the music, the composer, the audience, the ensemble, and the individual performer. If any one ensemble member's clothing, shoes, hair, or jewelry "sticks out", s/he draws attention from the music to themselves. The Damonte Ranch Orchestras follow the traditional professional concert attire of dress black. Students will be responsible for purchasing the required attire. Fundraising opportunities will be made available to all interested students.

### Purpose

The Damonte Ranch Orchestra has a reputation for presenting high quality performances. In addition to promoting a positive image among audience members, proper concert dress also serves to:

1. Reinforce the Orchestras' positive image every time audience members see the Orchestras either on stage or in transition.
2. Identify Orchestra members to visitors requiring assistance.
3. Contribute to an increased sense of 'teamwork', identifying Orchestra members as a unified group.
4. Assist Orchestra members in understanding clearly what constitutes professional concert attire, while in turn preventing disciplinary problems related to dress and appearance under the DRHS dress code.

### Wearing Concert Dress

The wearing of the prescribed attire is a condition of enrollment in Orchestra classes. Any student who feels that s/he cannot conform to the standards below should immediately discuss the reasons with the ensemble Director. After this discussion, if the student is still unwilling to wear proper concert dress, then arrangements should be made with his/her counselor to be removed from the Orchestra class. Any student participating in a performance with inappropriate dress or with missing components may be removed from that performance and will not receive credit.

Orchestra members must adhere to generally accepted standards of good grooming. People (including the audience and adjudicators) who see students in concert dress behind the scenes form an opinion of the Orchestra and the school based on students' appearance and behavior while in concert dress. If students have any concerns as to whether or not they should or should not be doing something in uniform, they should err on the side of safety and respect. Remember that professionalism is unilaterally the goal.

Concert dress should be worn completely and properly at all times. This includes the following:

1. Hair is neatly groomed and removed from the eyes to ensure the student can see the music and conductor.
2. Gentlemen's shirts are neatly tucked in
3. Gentlemen's ties are neatly tied
4. All buttons on shirts and vests are buttoned
5. All visible jewelry (including necklaces) must be removed except for stud earrings.
6. All distracting makeup is removed (including nail polish).
7. Athletic shoes, flip-flops, and heavy boots are never appropriate for Damonte Ranch Orchestra performances.
8. Running in concert dress is out of character and shows a lack of respect for what the attire represents.
9. No swearing or inappropriate language or discussions in concert dress will be tolerated. This is disrespectful to the philosophy of the Damonte Ranch Orchestra, and dishonors the ensemble.

### Concert Dress may include the following pieces:

Ladies:       Black top  
                  Black palazzo pants  
                  Black dress (must extend below the knee when sitting down and be otherwise appropriate)  
                  Black dress shoes  
                  Black or flesh-coloured dress socks/or nylons

Gentlemen: Black dress shirt  
                  Black tuxedo pants  
                  Black tuxedo jacket  
                  Black vest or cummerbund (optional)  
                  Black tie or button cover  
                  Black dress shoes  
                  Black dress socks

## Field Trip & Bus

### Students

When traveling as a member of any Damonte Ranch Orchestra, students are representing the Orchestra, Music Department, Damonte Ranch High School, the Washoe County School District, the State of Nevada, their parents/guardians, and themselves. All school rules and policies apply to Orchestra members when participating in any Orchestra field trip. Violations of those policies will be treated as outlined in the Damonte Ranch High School Handbook.

Please be aware: Students who are suspended during the school year for infractions within the Orchestra may be excluded from the trip. Cases will be handled on an individual basis with the DRHS Administration.

1. Students should demonstrate model behavior and excellent attitude.
2. As a general rule, students should always be considerate of those around them. Students that are asked by others to stop a behavior or action that is disturbing, should be kind enough to stop.
3. There should be at least two adult chaperones per bus.
4. Treat all chaperones with the utmost respect and courtesy.
5. Only Damonte Ranch Orchestra students, personnel, and chaperones are allowed to ride the bus.
6. According to WCSD Transportation policies, students not enrolled in the class taking the field trip are not allowed to ride the bus. This includes children of chaperones and teachers.
7. In the case of multiple buses, students will return on the same bus they left on.
8. On most trips, students are required to ride on the bus both to and from the destination and, if applicable, to help with loading and unloading of equipment. However, if the Director/Teacher deems it appropriate:
  - a. According to WCSD Transportation policies, students may ride home with a parent/guardian provided the parent/guardian shows picture identification to the Director/Teacher and signs a statement releasing WCSD/DRHS from responsibility for their child.
  - b. According to WCSD Transportation policies, students may ride home with a person indicated by his/her parent/guardian provided that the parent/guardian has given prior written permission (see WCSD "Private Transportation Release Form") to the Director/Teacher for the student to leave with that person. The person responsible will have to show picture identification to the Director/Teacher to verify identity. S/he will also have to sign a statement that s/he is now responsible for the student at the parent/guardian's request.
9. If the Director/Teacher assigns seats on the bus, students may not switch with others.
10. Students must stay in their seats while the bus is in motion. This is in accordance with state law.
11. Students must stay seated until the bus comes to a complete stop.
12. Upon arrival at a destination, students are to stay seated until give direction from the Director/Teacher or another designated leader.
13. Loud, boisterous, profane language, "horseplay", or indecent behavior will not be tolerated, on or off the bus.
14. There is to be no food or drinks taken onto school buses.
15. There is no smoking or alcoholic beverages on Music Trips. This is School Board Policy and violators will be turned over to the DRHS Administration and School Police.
16. Coolers or glass containers are not allowed on the bus.
17. For longer trips, music devices are allowed but ONLY when listened to with headphones.
18. On some longer trips there will be quiet hours.
19. Students may not play their instruments on the bus.
20. No windows or doors of a bus should be opened or closed without the permission of the bus driver.
21. Keep all arms, hands, heads, etc. inside the bus at all times.
22. At the conclusion of all trips, all students MUST clean their areas of the bus.

### Chaperones & Instructors/Staff

The chaperones and staff are a direct extension of the Director/Teacher. Anyone asked to step in front of a Damonte Ranch Ensemble as a chaperone or instructor is to be treated with the utmost respect and courtesy. Without dedicated chaperones and instructors/staff, the Ensembles could not travel. They work hard to make trips as enjoyable and rewarding as possible. Their only compensation for the job is to enjoy your success and a polite "thank you" from all students.

Students who disagree with anything a chaperone or instructor asks them to do, SHOULD NOT ARGUE. Students are to do as instructed and then immediately inform the Director/Teacher of any concerns. This policy will be strictly enforced. Students risk disciplinary action if a chaperone or instructor finds it necessary to report them to the Director.

## ***Why Music?***

-by the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association

I. ***Music is a Science.*** It is exact, specific, and it demands exact acoustics. A conductor's full score 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.

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

III. ***Music is a Foreign Language.*** Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French; and the notation is certainly not English -- but a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas.

IV. ***Music is History.*** Music usually reflects the environment and times of its creation, often even the country and/or ethnic feeling.

V. ***Music is Physical Education.*** It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lip, cheek, and facial muscles in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragmatic, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

VI. Music is all these things, but most of all, ***Music is Art.*** It allows a human being to take all these dry, boring (but difficult) techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing no other subject can duplicate; humanism, feeling, emotion, call it what you will.

### ***That is why we learn music:***

Not because we expect to major in music

Not because we expect to play or sing all our lives

***But*** so we will be human  
so we will recognize beauty  
so we will have something to cling to  
so we will have more love  
more compassion  
more gentleness  
more good  
in short, more life.



## Forms

# Damonte Ranch Orchestra Student Contract

Return this portion to your orchestra director with ALL blanks filled in. DUE DATE: Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013.

Student First & Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) **I agree to bring my instrument, supplies, orchestra folder/sheet music, pencil, and planner to orchestra class. I will be respectful of all orchestra materials and equipment, including but not limited to, instruments, music, music stands, storage space, and the classroom.**
- 2) **I have read and understand the Orchestra Syllabus and Calendar, and the commitments therein.**
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ **Please check here if you do NOT have internet access at home. Students with or without home internet access must take responsibility for staying informed of news, changes, and updates as they are communicated by the orchestra director or student ensemble manager.**
- 4) **I understand that if I have legitimate conflicts on any of the required orchestra dates, I must submit the “Excused Absence & Alternate Assignment Request” form to my orchestra teacher no later than TWO WEEKS prior to the event in order to receive an alternate assignment.**
- 5) **I understand that all dates and times listed on the orchestra calendar are subject to change, addition, and/or subtraction.**

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian email address\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian phone number\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Parent/Guardian email addresses and phone numbers may be used privately by the teacher. They may additionally be utilized by the Orchestra Parent Committee to coordinate upcoming events. They will not be given out to any other parties.

If you have found any mistakes (spelling, grammatical), contradictions, or confusing passages in this document, please list them here and your director will address them:

## Parent/Guardian Volunteer Interest Form

Often when students reach high school parents/guardians think they are no longer needed. This couldn't be further from the truth. Students like to know that their parents/guardians are interested in and supportive of their activities.

There are many times during the year when the Orchestra will need the support and help of parent volunteers. We have a range of needs in many areas. Please check the areas where you feel that you could help. We'll connect you.

### ***Thank You!***

- ☐ Chaperone – festivals, concerts, trips
- ☐ Teaching- masterclasses, sectionals
- ☐ Engineering and carpentry (cabinets, instrument storage, etc.)
- ☐ Food- catering, purchasing, etc. Includes bake sales and post-concert receptions.
- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Grant Writing
- ☐ Organize/coordinate parent involvement
- ☐ Photographer – still *Highly Encouraged*
- ☐ Photographer – video *Highly Encouraged*
- ☐ Publicity
- ☐ Transportation (instruments) – festivals, concerts, trips
- ☐ Trip planning – we'd like to go to Disneyland!
- ☐ Concert Attire and Orchestra shirts – sewing, repairing, measuring, ordering, etc.
- ☐ Sorry, I can't help, but I would love to write a check

Please list any other skills or talents that you may lend to the DRHS Orchestra program

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## Excused Absence & Alternate Assignment Request

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Performance/Rehearsal to be missed \_\_\_\_\_

**Group:** \_\_\_ Concert Orchestra \_\_\_ Sinfonia Orchestra \_\_\_ Chamber Orchestra

Reason for Request – Be Specific.

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Date you first learned of this conflict \_\_\_\_\_

1. This form must be completely filled out, including parent/guardian signature.
2. This form must be given to the Director NO LATER than 2 weeks prior to a concert or dress rehearsal.
3. For extreme emergencies this form may be turned in no later than one week after the student returns to school.
4. Alternate assignments are due by the end of the grading period in which the missed concert/music event took place.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

The teacher may choose an appropriate assignment from the list below or create a new assignment.

- TIER 1** • Music Department Service Hours – Minimum of 2 hours helping teacher in the classroom outside of class time.  
• Research Paper – Minimum 2 paged typed (double spaced, no larger than 12 font) or 4 pages handwritten on a musical topic approved by the teacher.

- TIER 2** • Music Event Attendance – Musical event must be pre-approved by the teacher. Write a summary/review (same specifications as Research Paper above).  
• Essay – Write an essay comparing putting on a music performance to be part of a sports team and how each member's attendance, effort, behavior, and attitude would affect the entire group in both cases. Minimum 3 pages typed (double spaced, no larger than 12 font) or 6 pages handwritten.

- TIER 3** • Presentation to the class – 10 minute presentation to the class on a topic pre-approved by the teacher.

- TIER 4** • There is no assignment available at this level. Perhaps music classes are not a good fit for this student. The teacher will contact the student's counselor and recommend him/her for removal from the class for the next year.

\*\*\*\*\*

Director's use only:

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Approved or Denied: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Alternate Assignment given:

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Reason for denial (if applicable):

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Teacher Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Calendar

All dates, times, events, and locations are subject to change, revision, addition, or subtraction.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Call Time</b>	<b>Dress Time</b>
Wednesday, October 2nd	7 PM	Fall Orchestra Concert	DRHS Theatre	6 PM	2:45-4:30 PM
Tuesday, November 19th	8 PM	WCSD Senior Honors Orchestra Concert	Nugget Ballroom	TBA	TBA
Wednesday, December 11th	7 PM	Winter Orchestra Concert	DRHS Theatre	6 PM	2:45-4:30 PM
Saturday, February 22nd	9 AM	WCSD Solo and Ensemble Festival	Kendyl Depoali MS	8:00 AM	N/A
Thursday, February 27th	5 PM	DRHS Zone Concert	DRHS Large Gymnasium	2:30 PM	4 PM
Thurs-Fri, March 13-14th	TBD	WCSD Orchestra Festival	North Valleys HS	2:30 PM	2:45 PM
Wednesday, June 4th	7 PM	Spring Orchestra Concert	DRHS Theatre	6pm	2:45-4:30 PM
Friday, June 13th	TBD	Graduation	Lawlor Events Center	2:30 PM	TBA

## Additional Calendar Dates To Be Determined

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Call Time</b>	<b>Dress Time</b>
TBA	TBA	DRHS Open House	143	TBA	n/a
TBA	TBA	WCSD Honor Orchestra Auditions	TBA	TBA	n/a
TBA	TBA	NMEA All-State Orchestra Auditions	TBA	TBA	n/a
TBA	TBA	Scholarship/Awards/NHS Night	TBA	TBA	n/a

## Definitions

**Call** – The professional term for the time tuning/rehearsal begins. Students should have their instrument/music ready, chair/stand set up, and be seated by this time.

**Dress Time** – The approximate time that students will be expected to attend the dress rehearsal, if any. Subject to change.

**NMEA** – The Nevada Music Educators Association is the Nevada division of the Music Educators National Conference (MENC).