

## Vernon Township High School Orchestra

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Orchestra will meet every day during Period 3. Each student will also be scheduled for a sectional once a week during either the first or second half of their lunch period. Students who do not have a lunch will be scheduled for an after school sectional on Wednesday or Thursday. Any students who have sports conflicts must see me so that accommodations can be made. Chamber Orchestra members will rehearse after school on Tuesdays.

Students are required to attend all lessons and rehearsals regardless of whether or not they have their instrument and/or other materials. Points will be deducted, however, if a student is unprepared. Students have the opportunity to make up any sectionals that they miss either during the designated make-up sectional times listed throughout the week or after school. Seating auditions will be held in lunch periods and after school sectionals during the week of October 17-21, 2011.

Orchestra students are required to attend three-four evening full orchestra rehearsals and an evening dress rehearsal prior to our Holiday, Pops, and Spring concerts. These rehearsals will be held from 6:00-8:00 pm and are subject to change or cancellation due to inclement weather.

Upperclassmen may elect to take the College Prep (CP) option of this course. Orchestra CP students will have to complete a book study in the fall and a research project in the spring. Ten points will be deducted each day that an assignment is late. Assignments that are 3 days late will be counted as a zero. Students who are absent on the day an assignment is due must turn in the assignment on the next day that they are in school in order to receive full credit.

### **CONCERTS/FIELD TRIPS:**

- Workshop with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at Vo-Tech- Friday, November 18, 2011
- **Holiday Concert I**- Friday, December 2, 2011
- **Pops Concert II**- Friday, March 9, 2012
- New York Philharmonic Concert at Lincoln Center- Friday, March 16, 2012
- Teen Arts- *Chamber Orchestra only*- Tuesday, March 20, 2012
- **Spring Concert II**- Friday, May 11, 2012
- Solo/Ensemble- *Chamber Orchestra and select students only*- Wednesday, June 6, 2012

A schedule of evening rehearsals and concerts, Orchestra CP assignments, Vernon Instrumental Parent meetings, and fundraiser information can be found on our group website, <http://www.vthsorchestra.org>. A link to this website can be found on the VTHS homepage.

### **FUNDRAISERS**

- Innisbrook Wraps from September 6-20, 2011
- Ashley Farms from October 3-17, 2011
  
- Profits from these fundraisers may be applied to any future trips, including:
  - VTHS Orchestra trip to Lincoln Center- Friday, March 16, 2012
  - VTHS Orchestra Senior Dinner- TBD
  - VTHS Orchestra trip in 2013- TBD

**CLASSROOM RULES:**

- Arrive at sectionals and rehearsals on time and with all materials
  - Be in the room when the bell rings
  - Be in your seat when the concert master plays the tuning note
- Follow directions the first time given
- Conduct yourself in a quiet and orderly manner
- Be respectful of others and their property
- Use instruments, materials, and equipment properly

**CONSEQUENCES:**

- First offense- warning by teacher
- Second offense- points taken off preparation grade; parent/guardian contacted
- Third offense- points taken off preparation grade; parent/guardian contacted; referral submitted

**GRADING:**

- Grades will be calculated based on the following components:

**Orchestra**

Attendance @ Concerts and Sectionals	30%
Ensemble Technique/Musicianship	40%
Written Work	10%
Classroom Achievement	20%
- Attendance	
- Attitude	
- Preparation	

**Orchestra CP**

Attendance @ Concerts and Sectionals	20%
Ensemble Technique/Musicianship	40%
Written Work	20%
Classroom Achievement	20%
- Attendance	
- Attitude	
- Preparation	

**EXTRA RESPONSIBILITIES [see me for more information!]**

- Students using their own instruments must pay to replace each broken string and to replace their rosin.
- Violinists and violists should consider purchasing the following:
  - An extra set of strings at the beginning of this year so that you have strings readily available when the need arises! Dominant [violin] and Helicore [viola, cello, bass] strings are recommended.
  - A Kun adjustable shoulder rest [if you do not already own one]. This will help you to hold your instrument correctly and will aid in shifting!
  - A tuner [students will have to tune their own instruments on a daily basis!]

**CONCERT DRESS**

- Black dress pants
- Black sleeved top- ladies
- Black dress shirt- gentlemen
- Black socks
- Black dress shoes

\*\* No skirts, halter tops, spaghetti straps, or strapless tops\*\*