BLUE VALLEY NORTH HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRAS

Welcome to the Blue Valley North Orchestra program for 2018 - 2019. I am excited about the upcoming year of activities and I hope you are too. Our Concert Orchestra a preparatory experience for membership in Symphonic Orchestra. It will be my goal to make the Concert Orchestra experience educational, challenging and rewarding with a focus on developing every student's performing skills to the highest possible level. The Symphonic Orchestra will be our most advanced performing group. Students in this ensemble will have regular opportunities to perform outstanding orchestral literature and will be encouraged to set a high musical standard for our school community, concert audiences and younger Blue Valley North area orchestra students. Both Symphonic and Concert Orchestras will have an active, challenging performance schedule and opportunities to use their talents in many exciting ways. Here are some of the activities planned for this year:

Instrument Demonstration at North Area Elementary Schools (Symphonic)
KMEA All-District Orchestras – (9 -12 eligible)
KMEA All-State Orchestra – (10-12 eligible)
Pre - Contest Recital w/adjudication – (Concert and Symphonic)
Regional and State Solo and Ensemble Festivals – (Concert and Symphonic)
Orchestra Council – (Symphonic and Concert Orchestra Class Assistants)
Regular Concert Series – (Concert and Symphonic)
Large Ensemble Music Contest (Concert and Symphonic)
Musical – TBA (limited ensemble)
North Area Orchestra Festival – (Concert and Symphonic)
Full Orchestra Performance (Symphonic)

Seating auditions are Wednesday, August 22 for Concert Orchestra and Thursday, August 23 for Symphonic Orchestra. This audition will be performed live during class for all students on assigned music. Good Luck!

Sincerely,
Steve Phalp
913-239-3138 (BVN)
913-239-5478 (OTMS)
sphalp@bluevalleyk12.org
Planning Period – 1:30 – 2:00 (OTMS)

BLUE VALLEY NORTH HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA GRADING PROCEDURE

Philosophy: The Blue Valley North High School Orchestras are performing organizations. Grading reflects each student's participation, cooperation and contribution to the success of the organization.

System: Students earn points for cooperative participation. Grades are assigned according to the percentage earned of the points possible. Points earned within each semester are cumulative and this equals 90% of the grade. The final exam accounts for the other 10% of the semester grade. All students are required to take the final exam both semesters. Exception: Any second semester senior who is making an A for the semester prior to the date the final exam is exempt.

Percentage Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 –100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 - 89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 - 79</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 - 69</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 or below</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Point Values:

- Daily Class – unprepared: 0
- Daily Class – uncooperative: 0
- Performance, Sectional, Special Rehearsal – absent: 0
- Daily Class – tardy – traditional day: 05
- Daily class – prepared – traditional day: 10
- Daily Class – tardy – block day: 15
- Daily Class – prepared – block day: 20
- Sectional (tardy or early departure – half credit): 100
- Special Rehearsal (tardy or early departure – half credit): 100
- Performance – unprepared, uncooperative, tardy: 100
- Performance - prepared: 200
Definitions:

absent – not in attendance
unprepared - missing instrument, not participating, using electronic device,
chewing gum, not wearing required uniform
uncooperative – unwilling to follow an instruction or alter a behavior as requested
tardy -  1. Student is outside the room when the bell rings or start time has arrived
2. Student is not in their assigned seat with all equipment and ready to
   perform by two minutes after the bell rings or start time has arrived
prepared – participates with a positive attitude and follows instructions

An excused absence during the school day - will be granted if excused by the school
An excused absence outside the school day– may be granted with:

A. Note to the instructor from a parent indicating a reason for the absence
B. Under these circumstances
   1. Illness
   2. Family conflict or emergency
   3. Religious activity observation
   4. School activity conflict
C. And not under these circumstances
   1. Job (give employer a copy of the orchestra schedule)
   2. School activity that could have been rearranged (give coach or sponsor a copy of the orchestra schedule)
D. Use these priorities for activities:
   1. State
   2. District
   3. Performance or Game
   4. Rehearsal or Practice
   5. Split 50/50 if both activities are on the same level

Points unearned because of an excused absence may be made up by turning in a VIDEO recording of the student practicing music that is being performed at the time of the absence followed by individually chosen music appropriate for their level of skill and development. Recordings will be due no later than Monday of the last week of the quarter in which the absence occurred. Late recordings may receive a maximum of one-half credit.

Points unearned because of an unexcused absence may not be made up.

Remember -  1. absent = no points
2. excused absence = qualified to do recording

Make up recording – 30 minutes of continuous performance = 100 points

Students should state their name, date and what they will be performing at the beginning of the recording. Students will be assigned full or partial credit based on the quality of the performance on the recording. The grade assigned could be 0 – 100 percent.

The make up recording opportunity applies only to attendance and may not be used to make up for any other type of point loss.

Exception: Excused school day absences will not incur a loss of credit.

Seating:
Seating auditions will occur at the beginning of the school year. Less than one-half of each instrument will be “seated” musicians. In the violin section, seated musicians will alternate between 1st and 2nd violin except the first one or two stands as assigned by the instructor, who will stay in 1st violin. Students not seated will “rotate” to new assigned seats for each concert period.

Challenges:
After music selections for a concert period have been finalized, any student may challenge a “seated” student for their chair if they desire to move up in their section. A student may challenge only once per concert period.
If the challenger receives the higher score for their performance, they will take the chair and all other seated students will “bump down”. If the higher chair gets the higher score, everything remains the same. If two or more students challenge for the same chair on the same day, priority will be given to the student seated in the higher chair.

1. Students who wish to challenge must notify the instructor and the student they are challenging in writing at the beginning of class. Both students will then meet with the instructor at the end of class to schedule the challenge performance date and be assigned literature.
2. Challenges will be heard live.
3. Students will be assigned one piece of music from the current concert period. Rests longer than two measures may be skipped after a short pause.
4. Students will have to prepare by the agreed upon challenge date.
5. The teacher will not be advised of the identity of the students as they perform.
6. If both students are unwilling to perform at the assigned time everything remains the same and neither student may challenge during the next concert period. If one student is willing to perform and the other is not, the willing student will win the chair after their performance is heard. Under this circumstance, if the winner is in a lower chair position, the two students will switch chair positions. The student who did not perform may not challenge during the next concert period. If one or both students have an excused absence on the performance date, the challenge will be rescheduled.
7. If the challenge performance date occurs within two weeks of a performance, chairs may not change until after the performance.

Orchestra council is a group of elected student leaders who support and assist the instructor concerning all aspects of the Symphonic Orchestra. Students are elected to particular areas of responsibility and serve for one school year.

OFFICES

President - Senior, leads and oversees orchestra council responsibilities
Vice-President - Junior, assistant to President
Secretary/Treasurer - Assists with attendance, collects forms, collects and turns in money, writes receipts, calls people to remind
Manager - Oversees setup for rehearsals and concerts, leads set up changes during performances, coordinates decorations
Librarian - Distributes, collects, and accounts for music, handles daily music emergencies
Historian - Takes pictures throughout year, makes scrapbook to display at end of year festivities and for archives
Publisher - Creates concert programs, publicizes concerts through posters, flyers and articles
Audio-Visual Tech – Insures that performances are audio and video taped, sets up and fixes equipment, handles stage and house lighting
Concert Orchestra Class Assistant – Appointed assistant to the teacher

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

If the high school musical requires a string section, parts will be offered to students from appropriate sections until the parts are properly covered. Rehearsal and performance dates will be set and invitations will be issued to students by chair position. If a student unable to accept, the position will be offered to the next chair until all positions are filled.

ORCHESTRA UNIFORMS

Each Orchestra member will be expected to wear a uniform for concerts.

1. Ladies will receive a black dress from the school. Ladies will provide their own black hose and black closed toe dress shoes.
2. Gentlemen will receive a black tuxedo coat, slack, cummerbund, and bow tie. Students provide their own white wing collar tuxedo shirt, black dress shoes and black socks.
3. Students must pay the replacement cost of any item which is lost or damaged while in their possession.
PRACTICE

Students should practice an average of 20 minutes a day, five days a week to make a positive contribution to the orchestra and continue to become more proficient on their instrument. Sixty to one hundred minutes a day are not uncommon among the better students in an orchestra. Parents are encouraged to monitor and assist in this area.

SCHOOL INSTRUMENT USAGE

Students must reimburse the school for any loss or damage which occurs while the instrument is in their possession.

SENIOR STUDENT SOLOISTS

In order to be eligible for a senior solo performance with the orchestra, the student must have been a member of and participated in the Kansas All-State Orchestra during both their sophomore and junior years in high school and be enrolled in Symphonic Orchestra both semesters of their senior year.

CONCERT ETIQUETTE FOR STUDENTS

A complete music education will include knowledge about how to be a good performer and also, a good audience member. Here are the things an audience member should know when attending a musical performance:

- Be in your seat by the concert's starting time.
- Never enter or leave the auditorium when a performance is in progress. If you arrive late, wait until a selection is over to be seated.
- When you enter the auditorium, be aware that you have entered a performance area. Only quiet talking is allowed, and furthermore, this quiet talking should only occur before the performance begins, between selections during applause and at the end of the concert. There should be absolutely no talking during a musical selection.
- When someone walks on stage in front of an ensemble, they are making a formal entrance. You should applaud.
- When the conductor walks on stage, the entire ensemble stands to acknowledge the audience with the conductor. While the conductor is the only one who bows, the mere fact that the ensemble stands includes them in this acknowledgement.
- Do not applaud during the performance of a selection, even if there is a pause during the selection between movements or for dramatic effect. The only exception to this rule is that during a jazz ensemble performance applause is allowed immediately after an improvised solo.
- Applause is the only appropriate response for a concert setting. Yelling, whistling, etc. are for athletic events.
- Bringing infants to a concert is discouraged. With young children, if crying or squirming becomes a problem, quietly move to the lobby as a courtesy to other audience members.
- Do not take flash pictures during a performance.
- Turn off all electronic devices or make sure they are set on silent and do not hold or use them.
- If you enjoyed the concert, go "backstage" or greet the performers in the lobby after the final program selection and tell them in person.
- Multi-movement works (i.e. Sonatas, concertos, symphonies, Suites) accept applause after the conclusion of the work, NOT between movements.
- The National Anthem stands for a nation. It is not the prelude to an athletic event. It is tradition to NOT applaud after the Star Spangled Banner.
- Food and beverages are not allowed in concert halls.
- Feet or knees should not be placed on the seats in front of you.

Thank you for creating a wonderful atmosphere for our performances!

Orchestra Code of Conduct and Social Media Policy

Orchestra students are expected to display exemplary conduct at all times. Social media has the potential to be a positive part of our school culture. Inappropriate social media postings have a disruptive impact on the morale success of our organization. Students should remember that participation is a privilege and not a right. Please do not use sexually explicit, lewd, indecent or defamatory language. Do not use derogatory language regarding school personnel or other students. Nude, sexually – oriented, indecent images, or altered pictures will not be acceptable and is a violation of orchestra policies.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Report</th>
<th>Perform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENTARY TOUR - SO</td>
<td>TUES</td>
<td>AUG 21</td>
<td>BVN AREA</td>
<td>7:50 AM</td>
<td>ALL DAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEATING AUDITIONS - AS</td>
<td>WED-THURS</td>
<td>AUG 22-23</td>
<td>IMR</td>
<td>NORMAL</td>
<td>CLASSTIME</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOMECOMING PARADE - SS</td>
<td>THURS</td>
<td>SEPT 20</td>
<td>BVN BACK LOT</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCTOBER CONCERT - AS</td>
<td>THURS</td>
<td>OCT 11</td>
<td>BVN</td>
<td>5:50 PM</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Individual and Small Group Photos, 5:00 pm - IMR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Full Group Photo, 5:50 pm - PAC Stage)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALL-DISTRICT LIVE AUDITIONS - SS</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>NOV 3</td>
<td>OLATHE E</td>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL-DISTRICT REH. &amp; CONCERT - SS</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>DEC 1</td>
<td>OLATHE S</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DECEMBER CONCERT - AS</td>
<td>THURS</td>
<td>DEC 13</td>
<td>BVN PAC</td>
<td>6:40 PM</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALL-STATE LIVE AUDITIONS - SS</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>JAN 5</td>
<td>SALINA</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>REG. FEST. SOLO AUDITIONS - SS</td>
<td>WED-THURS</td>
<td>FEB 6-7</td>
<td>BVN-IMR</td>
<td>IN CLASS</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALL-STATE REH. &amp; CONCERT - SS</td>
<td>THURS-SAT</td>
<td>FEB 21-23</td>
<td>WICHITA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY CONCERT - AS</td>
<td>THURS</td>
<td>REB 28</td>
<td>BVN-PAC</td>
<td>6:40 PM</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTH AREA ORCH. FEST. - AS</td>
<td>THURS</td>
<td>MAR 28</td>
<td>BVN GYM</td>
<td>6:45 PM</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Rehearsal same day 4:30 pm BVN-GYM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRE-CONTEST RECITAL - SS</td>
<td>TUES</td>
<td>APR 2</td>
<td>BVN-IMR</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>3:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REGIONAL SOLO &amp; ENS. FEST. - SS</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>APR 6</td>
<td>OLATHE S</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>LARGE GROUP ST, FESTIVAL - AS</td>
<td>WED</td>
<td>APR 10</td>
<td>BVNW</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>FULL ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL - SO</td>
<td>WED</td>
<td>APR 24</td>
<td>BVN IMR</td>
<td>3:10 PM</td>
<td>3:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATE SOLO AND ENS. FEST. - SS</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>APR 27</td>
<td>WASHBURN R</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULL ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL - SO</td>
<td>MON</td>
<td>APR 29</td>
<td>BVN IMR</td>
<td>3:10 PM</td>
<td>3:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULL ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL - SO</td>
<td>WED</td>
<td>MAY 1</td>
<td>BVN IMR</td>
<td>3:10 PM</td>
<td>3:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULL ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL - SO</td>
<td>MON</td>
<td>MAY 6</td>
<td>BVN IMR</td>
<td>3:10 PM</td>
<td>3:15 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAY CONCERT - AS</td>
<td>TUES</td>
<td>MAY 7</td>
<td>BVN PAC</td>
<td>6:40 PM</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
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</tbody>
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Tuning time for regular concerts - 6:20 pm (Concert Orchestra) 6:40 pm (Symphonic Orchestra)

Regular concerts are held in the BVN High School Performing Arts Center
All-State Auditions in Salina for students grades 10-12 that make All-District and participate Dec. 1
North Area Orchestra Festival is held in the Blue Valley North High School Gym
Regional Solo and Ensemble Music Festival held at Olathe South High School
State Large Ensemble Music Festival held at Blue Valley Northwest
State Solo and Ensemble Music Festival held at Washburn Rural High School

Tuning before regular concerts is in the Instrumental Music Room.

* SPECIAL REPORTING TIME FOR THE OCTOBER 11 CONCERT IS:

5:00 pm – for individual and small group photos in the Instrumental Music Room
5:50 pm – for full ensemble photos in the PAC

AS - indicates required for all students   SO - indicates Symphonic Orchestra only   SS - Indicates selected students

Additional events or schedule changes will be announced as soon as possible
ORCHESTRA LETTER AWARD POINTS LIST
STUDENTS MUST EARN 500 POINTS TO RECEIVE A LETTER
(ALL POINTS MUST BE EARNED DURING THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR)

REQUIRED SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
A. Each Concert 15 (Demo Day counts as one concert)
B. Each Orchestra Rehearsal (outside the school day with the teacher) 10
C. Each Sectional or lesson (outside the school day with the teacher) 10

REGIONAL AND STATE MUSIC FESTIVALS
A. Orchestra 50 (I) 40 (II)
B. Solo 40 (I) 30 (II) 20 (III)
C. Small Ensemble 30 (I) 20 (II) 10 (III)

MUSICAL
A. Each Performance 10
B. Each Rehearsal 02

COMMUNITY AND PRE-CONTEST ACTIVITIES
A. Each Solo Performance 15
B. Each Small Ensemble Performance 10
C. Each Orchestra Performance 05 (Church – special events 05 – weekly service 02)

SPECIAL CATEGORIES
A. Grades 25 - (for the whole year if you have received an A every quarter)
B. Experience 10 - (per year - high school level, counting this year)
C. District Orchestra 25 (audition) - 25 (making it)
D. State Orchestra 25 (audition) - 25 (making it)
E. Clinic or Master Class 25 - (outside of school - not the Side-By-Side Concert)
F. Private Lessons 02 - (per lesson - one lesson per week may be counted)
G. Sectional 10 - led by section leader (+5) or teacher for 25 minutes during North Time
H. Challenge 10 (count 5 extra points if you won)
I. Program Lay Out and Typing 15 - (per concert)
J. Assist Stage Set Up 05 - (per concert)
K. Assist Stage Tear Down 05 - (per concert)
L. Teach Younger North Area Student 01 - (per 1/2 hour lesson) (one lesson per week per student may be counted for points - stringed instruments only)
M. Publicity 05 - (per event)
N. Orchestra Council Member 25 - (full year)
Q. Special Projects (as assigned)

VERIFICATION
1. All activities outside of school must be verified; a parent must sign your Application Form confirming its accuracy.
2. Points verifiable through school records do not require additional verification.
3. Letter applications will be given to students near the end of the school year. Keep a record of your points as the year progresses.