

This Week In Band: 12/2

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Date: Monday, December 2, 2024 at 07:27 PM MST

Hi Everyone,

I hope you all had an amazing Thanksgiving!!! It was really fun hearing all the stories from the students today! We had the most magical time in Big Bear! We rented a lovely Air BnB house. I ran the 9 mile Turkey Trot through a beautiful neighborhood on Thursday morning, and my husband and son cheered me on at the finish line! We spent the day cooking, watching movies, reading (me! I'm reading a delightful book right now called A Novel Love Story—the main character takes a wrong turn on a road trip and ends up in the real life fictional town from her favorite book series—so fun!), playing Scrabble, and enjoyed a delicious dinner. It was a wonderful day!

The next day we went to the zoo (highlights were bears, 3 different types of foxes, snow leopards, bobcats, and an albino raccoon!), finished another movie, played three of the Jazz Band Christmas songs together (yes, we all brought our instruments! So much fun!), had dinner at our favorite restaurant in the village, and walked around the beautiful village during the tree lighting ceremony. There were many beautiful trees and we also saw a great group of traditional holiday carolers who were fantastic! We had brunch at one of my favorite places there the next morning before heading back home to get ready for this week. It was one of the most special Thanksgivings we've ever had, and I hope you all made some amazing memories too! I highly recommend going to Big Bear any time of year. It's only a 6 hour drive (windy for the last 45 minutes, so give your kids Dramamine if they get carsick) and is beautiful in every season! How was your Thanksgiving?

Practice Records: Week 5: Due Tomorrow!!!

Practice Records are due tomorrow: Tuesday, December 3rd. Students must have all 5 signatures, minutes recorded for each week, their name, start date, due date, practice assignments written (on the back), and turned in on time in order to earn their 100 points. All students received a new Practice Record in class that will be due on Wednesday, January 22nd. We will pause after week 3 for Winter Break (I will pass out optional extra credit Winter Break practice records during the last week of the quarter) and will resume with Week 4 when we get back in January.

As a reminder, I check everyone's Practice Record on Mondays. Students who have a parent/guardian signature and minutes written in can earn 2 Dawg Tags! I have many extra practice records, so your student may ask any time if they need a new practice record. Students must have all 5 signatures, minutes recorded for each week, their name, start date, due date, practice assignments written (on the back), and turned in on time in order to earn their 100 points. Remember—time spent playing their instrument outside of their class period (including practicing saying their note names and fingerings/studying their fingering chart) all counts as practice minutes. Please let me know if you have any questions about practice records.

Pueblo Schedule: NWEA Testing Tuesday/Thursday

We have our Mid-Year NWEA testing this Tuesday (Math) and Thursday (ELA). Students will test with their first period teacher from 8:20-10:20am on those days and will have the rest of their classes for around 39 minutes each. If they use the text to speech accommodation, they will need to bring wired headphones. They should also bring something to do after the test (a book, drawing supplies, etc.). I told the students to try not to stress about it and to do their best. This is a

temperature check to see how much progress they've made since the first round of NWEA testing back in July and will help show teachers how they can best help students as we prepare for the spring semester.

Cookie Dough Delivery Thursday! Volunteers Needed!

Cooke dough orders will be delivered to Pueblo this Thursday, December 5th and may be picked up from 3:00-4:30pm from the Orchestra Room, which is G7. Orders will be organized by the seller's last name. Students can take them home after school or parents/guardians can come pick up the orders after school. Please enter through the main gate to the right of the front office doors. Turn right once you've entered that gate, keeping the courtyard on your left. G7 will be a few doors down on your right.

We need parent volunteers to help with distribution, so please [click here](#) if you are available. The items will be delivered at 12:15 to the school, and distribution will be from 3:00-4:30. I will help with distribution once the band room has cleared out.

Pueblo Winter Band Concert: Wednesday, December 18th at Desert Vista

Here are the details:

Concert Date: Wednesday, December 18th at Desert Vista High School

Warm-Up: 5:45pm in the Desert Vista Band Room

Concert: 6:30pm in the Desert Vista Auditorium

Concert Dress: Same band concert uniform as the fall concert plus optional holiday accessories (santa hat, elf ears, Hanukkah attire, holiday socks, holiday jewelry, etc)

Instrument Decorations: Students can dress up their instruments/mallets/drumsticks as long as the instruments still work, the decorations can be removed, and the instrument doesn't get damaged.

Cookies: We will need people to donate cookies and other finger food type desserts for our annual Cookie Reception following the concert. We'll need help with collection and distribution as well, so be on the lookout for a Sign-Up Genius in December.

Band Ornaments

Our wonderful Band Booster President is offering a very special personalized photo ornament gift option this holiday season, and all proceeds will go directly to our Pueblo Band Booster Fund! She made one for me last year, and I can personally attest to the quality! I know I'll definitely be ordering more this year!

Here are the details from Dolores:

Deck the halls and support Pueblo Band! Commemorate the season and celebrate our talented musicians with a personalized ornament! These beautiful ornaments feature our Pueblo Middle School bulldog, with musical notes and the year.

Here are the ornament options:

- Single-sided: \$15 - Features the bulldog design with notes and year.
- Double-sided: \$20 - Includes the bulldog design on one side and YOUR photo on the other side!

Here's how to order your ornament:

- Go to <https://puebloband.com/pueblo-band-store/ols/categories/holiday-ornaments-2024> and choose your option (single sided or double sided with photo).
 - The double sided example on the website shows the photo used for my ornament last year, but yours will be personalized with your photo (see below for how to submit your photo).
- When you check out, it will list information for in-person pick-up and mentions picking up in the Pueblo front office. This is because it's the same template as the Concert Closet orders. Ornaments will be available for pick-up at our December 18th concert at Desert Vista.
- Please put your phone number in the section at the top of the checkout page.
- If you choose the photo option, send a high-resolution image of your choice to

Dolores at delcorazonbylola@hotmail.com.

- Order Deadline: Friday, December 13th (to receive your ornament at the concert)
- Pick Up: Pueblo Winter Band Concert at Desert Vista HS on Wednesday, December 18th
- **Remember to include a phone number in case we need to contact you.**
- Don't miss out on this chance to create a lasting memory and support our amazing band!

7th and 8th Grade Scale Tests Thursday

Each quarter we will be checking off 3 scales, and we had our first check off day on Thursday, November 21st. This quarter we will be testing on concert Ab, Db, and C major scales. Many students checked off scales, and it was great celebrating all their hard work!

Our second check-off day will be this Thursday, December 5th, and our final day will be December 12th. Students may also check off scales before school on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday mornings in the band room starting at 7:50. Students will need to check off all scales by Friday, December 20th for their 100 points.

8th graders must play all three scales from memory for their 100 points. 7th graders (and new 8th graders) can earn extra credit for memorization, but it is not required. Both grades can earn extra credit for extra octaves, and 8th graders can earn extra credit for speed (120 bpm or above).

7th and 8th Grade All State Band Auditions Due Friday

This is a reminder that recordings are due by this Friday, December 6th. Recordings are to be audio only (except for percussion), and these need to be emailed to me (I will then upload them to the audition site). Students can record at home or at school (I checked in with the students about this in class today, and only two students said they need to record at school—Jackson and Liam). I'm happy to help students with their audition music before school on any non-Jazz day (Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday).

I am SO proud of the students for auditioning regardless of whether or not they are accepted! It takes a LOT of hard work preparing and recording the audition music! Results are typically sent out at the end of December/beginning of January. I will be checking my email throughout Winter Break and will send out the results as soon as I have them.

6th Grade Update: Band Karate

- We will continue with Band Karate this week with Woodwinds on Thursday and Brass/Percussion on Friday.
- As stated in the directions, students may also email me videos to check off songs and/or check them off before school on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday mornings (the band room opens at 7:50 each morning).
- Students will earn a treat for each belt they complete and will earn one Dog Tag per song they complete.

Jazz Band Update

We will rehearse on both Tuesday and Friday this week.

The gate opens at 7:00 and closes at 7:05. Please email me or send a message to the Remind if your student will be absent or is running late so I can send someone out to get them (text @puebloja to 81010 if you haven't joined our Remind Jazz Band group yet). If you don't hear from me, **please call the band room phone number if your student will be there after 7:05: 480-541-6990.**

- **2nd Quarter Jazz Band Performances:**
 - **Our next performance will be at Paloma Elementary School on Wednesday, December 11th.**
 - I will need students to meet at the Jazz Band gate by 7:05 ready to load equipment.

- We will be able to wheel over racks of chairs and stands, but we'll need several vehicles to transport the drumset, amps, and all mallet instruments. **Please email me if you can help move equipment.** We'll need you from 7:05-around 9:15am.
- Students will miss first period but should be back in time for 2nd period.
- We will wear our Jazz Band shirts with holiday pajama pants for that performance (it will be indoor). Students can wear their pajama pants over their regular pants if they don't want to wear their pajama pants all day.
- **We will perform at the Pueblo Winter Band Concert at Desert Vista High School on December 18th** (they'll be on first at 6:30pm and will wear their concert uniform for their regular band class).
- **Our final performance will be at the Pueblo Winter Pep Assembly on Friday, December 20th.** Please let me know if your student will not be at school that day. The assembly will be from 2:00-3:00pm in the Pueblo Gym.
- Jazz dates for next semester:
 - **Pueblo 5th Grade Showcase: January 22nd**
 - We will perform at the annual Pueblo 5th Grade Showcase on Wednesday, January 22nd.
 - Students need to be in the band room at 4:30pm for warm-up, and we will perform as part of the 5:00pm presentation. We will go back to the band room afterward to play while families are touring campus.
 - I am still thinking about what to have them wear and will update you on that.
 - **Tucson Jazz Workshop Daytrip: February 19th**
 - I am thrilled to announce that we will be returning to Tucson this year! Unfortunately the Jazz festival date did not work with our calendar, so we will be going to Rincon/University High School to do a performance for the Rincon/University Jazz Band on Wednesday, February 19th! Their Jazz Band will perform for us as well, and we'll have a clinic with their amazing director, Mr. Jeff Marchant!!! They have one of the best Jazz Bands in the state, and this will be a fantastic opportunity!!!
 - Here's a rough outline of the day: We will meet at 7:05am, leave at 7:30am (charter bus), do our performance/clinic, have lunch (probably U of A Student Union again), go to Reid Park Zoo, and head back to Pueblo with a return time of 5:00pm.
 - We will need chaperones, so please email me if you would like to attend.
 - **Pueblopalooza: April 11th**
 - We will once again be performing at the annual Pueblopalooza festival on Friday, April 11th.
 - I don't have our exact performance time yet, but plan on having your students available from 5:00-7:00pm that evening.
 - Students will wear Jazz Band shirts with nice jeans and will need to have their music in a binder with sheet protectors.

Here is the band mentor schedule as a reminder:

Band Mentors

Please make sure they contact their partner anytime they are unable to make it to band mentors. It's not too late to get a mentor! Please have your student submit a form ASAP if they're interested. Here is the schedule:

Student Last Name	Student First Name	Partner Name	Day

Albright	Savannah	Holland Chapman	Thursday
Badillo	Griffin	Micah Berkowitz	Monday
Ball-Perez	Emma	Bryce Hocking	Wednesday
Ball-Perez	Emma	Lucas Miller	Thursday
Barbaree	Jack	Alex DuPlessis	Monday
Bassett	Lillian	Grey Ward	Thursday
Berkowitz	Ari	Savannah Quezada	Thursday
Berkowitz	Micah	Griffin Badillo	Monday
Blinick	Victoria	Zoe Fernandez	Wednesday
Bond	Ace	Elaina Zemke	Thursday
Brish	Solomon	Shane Werkman	Thursday
Butler	Paige	Layla Larson	Thursday
Chapman	Holland	Savannah Albright	Thursday
Coggins	Sophie	Rowan Dowling	Wednesday
Dowling	Rowan	Sophie Coggins	Wednesday
DuPlessis	Alex	Jack Barbaree	Monday
Fagerman	Julia	Nina Griggs	Thursday
Fernandez	Zoe	Victoria Blinick	Wednesday
Foreman	Landon	Luke Shaw	Wednesday
Garcia	Josh	Emma Hocking	Thursday
Garcia	Sable	Ryan Hesselbacher	Thursday
Griggs	Nina	Julia Fagerman	Thursday
Hannah	Parker	Max Ohlgren	Wednesday
Hesselbacher	Ryan	Sable Garcia	Thursday
Hocking	Bryce	Emma Ball-Perez	Wednesday
Hocking	Emma	Josh Garcia	Thursday
Hsieh	Morgan	Kira Lee	Wednesday
Jarvis	Simryn	Xochitl Martinez	Wednesday
Jimenez	Ehlias	Safiya Underwood	Monday
Keiter	Steven	Lyla Sutton	Wednesday
Larson	Layla	Paige Butler	Thursday
Lee	Kira	Morgan Hsieh	Wednesday
Macziewski	Tori	Safiya Underwood	Thursday
Martinez	Xochitl	Simryn Jarvis	Wednesday
Martinez	Xochitl	James Olson	Wednesday

Miller	Lucas	Emma Ball-Perez	Thursday
Ohlgren	Max	Parker Hannah	Wednesday
Ohlgren	Charlie	Evan Sackett	Wednesday
Olson	James	Kai or Xochitl	Wednesday
Quezada	Savannah	Ari Berkowitz	Thursday
Sackett	Evan	Charlie Ohlgren	Wednesday
Shaw	Luke	Landon Foreman	Wednesday
Sutton	Lyla	Steven Keiter	Wednesday
Underwood	Safiya	Tori Macziewski	Thursday
Underwood	Safiya	Ehlias Jimenez	Monday
Ward	Grey	Lillian Bassett	Thursday
Werkman	Shane	Solomon Brish	Thursday
Zemke	Elaina	Ace Bond	Thursday

Thanks everyone! I hope you all have a wonderful week! Reach out with questions anytime!

Arlie DuPlessis Director of Bands

Kyrene del Pueblo Middle School

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