

This Week in Band: 2/18

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To: aduplessis@kyrene.org

Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 05:20 PM MST

Hi Everyone,

I hope you all had a wonderful 3 day weekend! We had a family Valentine's Day date to see the new Captain America movie on Friday night, which was a lot of fun! Saturday was the high school Regional Honor Festival, and it was fantastic! The band was one of the best Regional Honor Bands I've ever seen, and Pueblo was well represented! Our former trumpet soloist, Talia D'Ercole, played a big solo at the front of the stage to start the concert (first chair in the band as a freshman!!) and we had several other first chair players throughout the group! There's nothing better than watching my kids continue to play and soar in high school and beyond, so it was a very special concert! :)

Monday I finally put away the Christmas trees (I know, I know—I just hate putting it all away and saying goodbye to another Christmas—time is going too fast!). The Christmas Village will get one more week since the trees took a good chunk of the day, haha!

How was your weekend? Feel free to share :)

Practice Records: Week 5 Due next Tuesday!!!

We are in Week 5 of our current Practice Record, which is due next Tuesday, February 25th.

All students will get a new Practice Record on Monday that will be due on Tuesday, April 15th (we'll pause for Spring Break and resume with Week 3 after Spring Break). I will pass out optional extra credit Spring Break Practice Records the last week of this quarter.

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 Spring Band Concert: Next Thursday, February 27th

Concert reminder letters went out last Wednesday and is attached to this email for your reference, but here are the main details:

Binders Needed: Students need to have their music in a 3 ring binder in sheet protectors so their music doesn't blow away at the concert. This doesn't need to be a specific size or color, and they may use one from another class.

Concert Date: Thursday, February 27th in the Pueblo Amphitheater (it's in the center of campus outside the MPR)

Warm-Up: 5:30pm in the Pueblo Band Room for all students.

Concert Time: 6:00pm in the Pueblo Amphitheater

Concert Order: Jazz Band, 6th Grade Band, Concert Band, Symphonic Band

Students will sit with their families before and after their performance and stay for the entire concert.

What to Bring: Bring camping chairs, picnic blankets, beach towels, etc. for the audience. Feel free to bring a picnic dinner too! Our Band Boosters will be selling concessions before the concert and between groups as well! It will be a beautiful night!!!

Concert Dress: Same band concert uniform as the fall concert (band polos for 6th grade and Concert Band with black dress clothes; Symphonic Band in all black dress clothes with Pueblo ties for students who wear ties).

7th and 8th Grade Scale Tests Friday

Each quarter we will be checking off 3 scales, and this quarter we are testing on concert G, D, and Gb major scales. Our first check-off day was last Thursday, and many students checked off multiple scales! I love cheering them on! Our next Scale Check Off day is this Friday, February 21st.

All students play in class for two required rounds and then an optional third round. Starting this week, students may check off scales before school on non-Jazz Band days starting at 7:50 am (Wednesday is a Jazz Band trip, so they can check off before school this Thursday or Friday morning).

Our final check-off day will be on Tuesday, March 4th. Students may also check off scales before school this Thursday and Friday morning or next Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday morning 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).

6th Grade Update: Band Karate

- Congratulations to our newest Band Karate Black Belts:
 - Steven Keiter on Euphonium
 - Grey Ward on Tenor Sax
 - Way to go, students!! We're so proud of you!!
- We will NOT have Band Karate this week or next week as we prepare for our upcoming concert. Students may continue to check off songs

before school on non-Jazz Band days (Thursday and Friday this week) or by emailing me a video.

- Our final Band Karate day of the quarter will be on Tuesday, March 4th. I will communicate the grade requirement for this quarter soon.
- 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

This week we will rehearse on Tuesday and our Tucson trip is on Wednesday! (gate closes at 7:05). We will NOT rehearse this Friday to allow students to catch up on their missed work from Wednesday.

***NEW: Next week we will rehearse on Tuesday at the usual time and Thursday morning (gate opens at 7:25 and closes at 7:30am). There will be no rehearsal next Friday, February 28th.**

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 arrives after the gate has closed: 480-541-6990.**

- **Third Quarter Jazz Band Dates:**

- **Tucson Jazz Workshop Daytrip: February 19th**

- The gate closes at 7:05 and we are meeting in the band room first. Please see the email from Monday with all the trip reminders.
 - We will be back at 5:00pm.

- **Rehearsal Thursday, February 27th (gate closes at 7:30)**

- No rehearsal on 2/28
- **Pueblo Band Concert: February 27th (see concert details earlier in this email)**
- Rehearsal on March 4th with special guests from The Nash Jazz Education Center!
- No rehearsal on 3/7
- We will perform at the Pueblo Spring Pep Assembly around 2:00pm on Friday, March 7th. Please let me know if your student will not be at school that day.
- **4th Quarter Jazz Dates:**
 - No rehearsal on 3/25 (first day of the quarter)
 - Normal rehearsals on 3/28 and 4/1
 - No rehearsal on 4/4 (California trip!)
 - **Pueblopalooza Performance: 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.
 - **Final Pueblo Band Concert: Thursday, May 22nd at 6:00pm.**

Here is the band mentor schedule as a reminder:

The band room is open on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings this week at 7:50am. Many students will be on the Jazz Band trip with me this Wednesday, so keep that in mind if your student usually meets on Wednesdays.

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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Band Concert Reminder Spring 2025.pdf

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