

This Week In Band: 1/13

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Hi Everyone,

I hope you all had a wonderful weekend! We finally made it to Zoo Lights at the Phoenix Zoo!!! We weren't able to go last year, so I was happy we could fit it in for one more fun holiday activity! It was so beautiful and we had a great time together :) They have such awesome technology with their light show and the 3D glowing animal lanterns. We even saw some real animals—an elephant and some ringtails!

We also had our first meeting for our bus group for the Arizona Musicians Abroad Europe trip we are chaperoning this summer! We have several former Pueblo band students going on the trip, and I'm so excited to share this experience with them! I hope your students will get the opportunity to go on this amazing trip when they're in high school too! It will be every other summer on the odd years starting this summer. We went with a different tour company on 6 trips before COVID, and it's just the most amazing experience! I'm so glad it's back!

How was your weekend? Feel free to share :)

Practice Records: Week 5—DUE NEXT WEDNESDAY

We are now on Week 5 of our current Practice Record, which is due next Wednesday, January 22nd (we don't have school on Monday, so that's why it's a Wednesday due date). All students will get a new Practice Record on Tuesday.

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 Electives Registration Due Wednesday

All 6th and 7th grade students should be receiving their elective choice forms for next school year today or tomorrow. They are due by next Wednesday, January 15th so they can enter their choices. I truly hope everyone will sign up for band again for next year! We've made SO much progress already and will continue to make more the rest of this year and beyond!

Next year we will continue to have Concert Band for the regular level of 7/8 band and Symphonic Band for advanced 7/8. Even though there will be a Band option and an Advanced Band option, I will make sure students get placed in the correct band class for next year regardless of which band they select. As long as they choose a band class, they'll be fine.

Here is some information to help with this:

- **Which Band Class?**

Students may write Band or Advanced Band. I will be the one who looks at that information and assigns their placement, so it doesn't matter which they choose for this stage. I base this decision on their maturity, work ethic, and playing ability (Band Karate progress in 6th grade, Scale Check-Offs in 7th grade) as well as which level I feel is best for that student to succeed. I told the students they can think about their progress and write which band they feel would suit them for now (Band = Concert Band, Advanced Band = Symphonic Band). I don't communicate which band class they are in until next school year

when they get their schedules since a lot can change between now and the end of the year.

- **Taking Two Band Classes**

Students at the advanced level may take two band classes if they would like to have band for both electives. They may play their same instrument in both classes or choose a secondary instrument for Concert Band. Students wishing to do this would write Band and Band Advanced on their sheet. They should also put their alternate elective choices on the form in case anything changes. Taking two band classes is not a requirement--it's just an opportunity :) They should still write other alternative choices of electives in case this doesn't work with their schedule.

- **Should they switch instruments?**

We still have a lot left to learn this year, and I recommend students stick with their instrument unless they really aren't having success with it. This isn't anything to worry about for the registration form though—we can deal with that at the end of the school year/beginning of next school year.

- **Should My Student Continue?**

It's hard making these kinds of decisions in January! I tell them to try not to think about what their friends are doing and to just answer these questions: "Do I like playing my instrument/in band?" and "Do I want to continue playing?" If the answer to those questions is yes, they really shouldn't worry about anything else. Sometimes kids get distracted by what their friends are doing (or if they're having a hard time playing a song that day) and forget to think about themselves--especially at this age! What's great about continuing with band is that they know exactly what to expect in terms of routines and procedures as well as how to play their instrument. It truly keeps getting better every year! Many more opportunities come up like Junior High All State, more field-trips,

Jazz Band, becoming a band mentor, playing with the Corona marching band, etc.

I hope that helps! Please let me know if you have any questions at this point.

Save the Date: Pueblo Spring Band Concert on Thursday, February 27th

This is the same date from the Band Concert calendar (yay!!!). I will send home concert reminder letters as it gets closer, but here are the main details:

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).

California Trip Update: Payment #2 Due 1/24

I passed out individualized balance/payment information sheets to all students going on the band California trip in class last week. Please let me know if you have any questions. The second payment (\$350) is due by Friday, January 24th and is tax credit eligible. Please let me know ASAP if your student is no longer attending the trip (or if you are a chaperone that is cancelling).

6th Grade Update: Band Karate Resumes 1/23+1/24

- We will NOT have Band Karate this week. Our first Band Karate days this quarter will be January 23rd and 24th. Students are still allowed to check off songs before school and email videos.
- 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 THURSDAY at the normal time (gate closes at 7:05). Students in NJHS may leave rehearsal at 7:45 to attend their meeting.

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:

- First rehearsal: Friday, January 10th (gate closes at 7:05)
- Normal rehearsal Tuesday, January 14th
- **THURSDAY rehearsal January 16th (gate closes at 7:05)**
- No rehearsal Friday, January 17th (I'm out of town)
- **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.

- Students will wear their Jazz Band shirts and nice jeans for this performance. The performance will be indoors, but students may wear a long-sleeved black shirt under their Jazz Band shirt if they're worried about being cold.

- **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.

- **Pueblo Band Concert: February 27th (see concert details earlier in this email)**

- **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:

I will be out of town this Friday (1/17), so we will be having Jazz Band on Thursday this week. Thursday pairs may meet on Friday this week (as long as my sub arrives on time!).

Next week we don't have school on Monday, so Monday pairs can choose Wednesday or Thursday.

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 |

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| 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 |

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| 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

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