

Big Sky Bands

Band Class Assignment

Monday, April 6 - Friday, April 10, 2020

Hello band family!

I hope you are all doing well. Carefully read the following information about our 2nd assignment for distance learning.

Again, while any online format will never replace the amazing things we do collectively in person, I hope you will join me in approaching this opportunity to grow and expand our minds and spirits! As always, reach out with any questions and concerns. I am available to chat with you online via google hang (email me) as well as give lessons for free (just ask!). We're in this together!

If you do not have an instrument or your music, please email me NOW!

jedochnah1@mcpsmt.org

First things first...

Please join me in doing a few basic things for the betterment of your "shelter" life!

1. Have a daily schedule that helps you be productive. Write it down - make it your own and incorporate daily work with enjoyment activities.
2. Exercise every day! Seriously - set a goal of something doable for you! I guarantee this will help you feel better and help you stay sane.
3. Cook something for your family. Then share your favorite recipe with the rest of the band! You heard me, I plan to post a recipe this week in exchange for your ideas.

Class Assignment, April 6 - 10

Again we will focus this week on THREE steps, but with more options:

1. Daily Practice
2. Explore something new
 - a. Video record school song (due last week!)
 - b. Smart Music!
 - c. Listen to great musicians
 - d. Porch Concerts!
3. Band Check In on Friday morning (before noon) -- tell me how you're doing
 - a. Form will be posted Thursday night on Classroom

Step 1 - Daily Practice

Set a daily schedule for yourself and incorporate a 30+ minute practice session reviewing all of the items listed below. Please do your best to keep your standards HIGH!

Now is a great time to review: [How to Practice Effectively](#)

Daily Practice Checklist for April 6 - 10

1. Breath work (for more on the science of breathing, [check this podcast](#))
 - a. Gratitude Breath: Call to mind one thing you are grateful for. Breathe in through your nose for 4 counts, exhale through your mouth 8 counts, sending gratitude and thanks out. Repeat a few times. Thank you!
 - b. Focus Breath: Breathe in through your nose 4 counts, out your nose 4 counts. Repeat 5 times.
2. WARM-UP - Long tones, Lip Slurs, Chromatic Scales; Percussion rolls and five minute drills
 - a. Long Tones from your book/packet. Metronome set to 72 bpm.
 - b. Lip Slurs - Brass: descending and ascending
 - c. Chromatic Scales - Woodwinds - decrease the tempo so you can play these cleanly and perfectly.
3. SCALES REVIEW
 - a. Symphonic Band & Percussion Ensemble - Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, F, C, G
 - b. Wind Ensemble/Jazz - ALL 12 major and minor scales
4. CHROMATIC SCALE - work on full range
 - a. Goal is [All-State](#) specific tempo, articulation, and range
 - b. Isolate the “needs work” sections of the scale by SLOWING DOWN and doing that section perfectly multiple times (3-5 times in a row--find that “Aha” moment).
5. **All-State Example 1** (whatever is listed first under your chromatic scale - Percussion please begin with that tricky “keyboard” exercise)
 - a. Isolate in 2-3 measure sections, begin practicing SUPER SLOW and PRECISE. Rock it!
 - b. Here’s a link to the [All State MUSIC](#), in case you lost your copy.
 - c. All-State example-videos [HERE](#) (more videos will be uploaded each week)
6. **For SENIORS and current All-State Students** - Please record yourself performing each All-State etude slowly with a metronome. Share your recordings [HERE](#) to help your younger peers. This will be an amazing way to help your colleagues succeed! You have a legacy to care for, afterall. ;)
7. **Small Ensemble music**
 - a. Practice your part for your small ensemble. Use your metronome to keep steady, slowly speeding it up to performance tempo.
 - b. Our goal is to record your part for your ensemble and share it with the other members of your ensemble next week. Be ready!
8. **Jazzers:** Improvise, record, and upload a solo on [Freddie Freeloader](#) (Miles Davis’ Kind Of Blue album) to Google Classroom.
 - Jam and record at least 2 choruses (two times through the form) of Freddie Freeloader. Borrow ideas from Miles or anyone else on the record!
 - Use this [play along track](#). It also has the chord changes if you need them.
 - [It’s a B-flat blues!](#) You got this!
 - Drummers--you can do this too using whatever means you have.

Step 2 - Explore Something New

Students will choose a minimum 2 of the following options, and actively pursue them over a week’s time.

Option 1 - If you haven't already! Record [School Song Project](#)! The entire BSHS music department will create a virtual ensemble using video/audio tracks recorded by each and every one of you. Project [Details here](#) and on Google Classroom. Please try to finish this week.

Option 2 - Practice with Smartmusic. First, [create an account](#) on Smartmusic. Here's a [helpful video to start](#). After you create an account, EXPLORE! Play scales, arpeggios, improvise, sight read, play random music or solos of your choice, percussionists work on rudiment exercises, or complete one of my assignments. Please spend 30+ minutes on anything that interests you. Please make time to work on sight reading and scales, especially. This site can be addicting and fun! There is a TON of cool stuff on Smartmusic.

Click this link to join: <https://admin.smartmusic.com/join>

Enter Class Code

- Jazz Bands: FXEQF-WF7LE
- Percussion Ensemble: ZVFG4-Q6MUZ
- Symphonic Band (1st period): VLERD-ZNCC2
- Wind Ensemble (6th period): CCMFM-FYYU3

Option 3 Listen to Excellent Musicians

On Youtube, find and watch at least one professional perform on your instrument. Check out [Sound Like This!](#) These are so good. Also, check out [List of Virtual Concerts](#).

I've been adding tons of cool resources on our website, too. <https://www.mcpsmt.org/Page/13169>

Option 4 - Porch Concert! Record yourself (or do it on the honor system) performing a mini concert on your deck/porch/garage/alley/random safe place. You may be surprised who loves hearing you play. Please send a copy of your performance and I'll share it on social media (with your approval).

Step 3 - Band Check In Friday

On Friday morning, tell me how you're doing on our Band Check In form. It will be posted on google classroom Thursday night. I'll have new questions, plus weird questions about facial hair. Thanks to everyone that shared new ideas last week. I loved reading your input and thoughts!

Private Lessons

I strongly encourage you to start taking online lessons from a local teacher during this time, if you aren't already. These local teachers charge anywhere between \$12-25 per lesson, though you'll have to ask when you contact them. Let me know how I can help!

Private teachers who can teach online (but limited to this list):

Flute

Dr. Jen Cooper - jcooperflute@gmail.com
Kirsten McGlynn - 406-270-0108

Oboe

Susi Stipich - [sstipich@hotmail.com](mailto:ssstipich@hotmail.com)

Clarinet

Chuck Florence - 406-251-8494

Saxophone

Chuck and Brook Florence - Saxophones2@msn.com

[Dylan Dwyer](mailto:dylandbriandwyer@gmail.com) - dylandbriandwyer@gmail.com

[Ross Strauser](mailto:rmistrauser@gmail.com) - rmistrauser@gmail.com

Bassoon

Alicia McLean - basunist@msn.com

French Horn

Zachary Cooper - zachary.cooper@mso.umt.edu

Trombone

Lexi Vine - xiaosang05@gmail.com

Naomi Moon Siegel – naomi.siegel@gmail.com

Trumpet

Nick Barr - nickbarr96@gmail.com

John Driscoll - 406-880-0684

Euphonium/Tuba

Lexi Vine - xiaosang05@gmail.com

Ben Kirby - 406-728-0338

Paul Bruce - bruce16@gmail.com

Percussion

Rosie Cerquone - rosiecerquone@gmail.com

Ed Stalling - edstalling@yahoo.com

Improvisation/Jazz

Naomi Moon Siegel – naomi.siegel@gmail.com