

Welcome to
Midland Middle School

BEGINNING ORCHESTRA
WITH MR. THORNE

Please review the contents of this packet and return this page with the student initials and parent/guardian signatures. This is an indication both the student and parent/guardian have received and reviewed the information provided within.

Student Initial	Item
	Remind101 information
	Syllabus at a Glance
	Syllabus
	Selection Guide
	Daily Schedule
	Performance Schedule

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____



Sign up for important updates from Mr. Thorne.

Get information for **Beginning Orchestra** right on your phone—not on handouts.


Pick a way to receive messages for **Beginning Orchestra**:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/c9ghkc

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

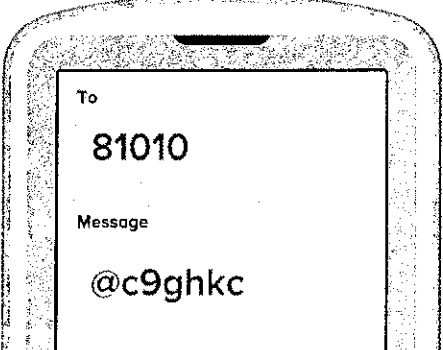


B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @c9ghkc to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @c9ghkc to (858) 500-3466.

* Standard text message rates apply.



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/c9ghkc on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

Homework expectations

Students are expected to practice at home 20 mins 5 nights a week. Practice Records should be turned in every Wednesday. These must be signed by a parent/guardian.

- Practice Records are not accepted late.

Playing Tests may be submitted early via a video submission to my school e-mail address. These videos are due prior to the schedule playing test in class. Students will be given an opportunity to perform in class for their playing test.

- Playing Tests can be retaken on tutoring days.



Tutoring schedule

Band & Orchestra is a new thing for some students. The content and demands are different. Students can schedule extra help on Thursday's and Fridays from 4pm-6pm at Midland.

Band & Orchestra

Contact

Mr. Jason Thorne
Thorne.Jason.A
@muscogee.k12.ga.us

Supply List



- Working Instrument
- Assigned Method Book for Instrument
- Assigned Sheet Music
- Instrument Accessories

- Pencil
- Composition Notebook

- Positive Attitude

grading

Daily Performance	25p
Weekly Practice Records	50p
Playing Tests	100p
Written Tests	100p
Concert Participation	500p



Class website

<https://thornejasona.wixsite.com/midlandfinearts>



Sign here



Parent Signature

Student Signature

Midland Middle School Band & Orchestra Syllabus

thorne.jason.a@muscogee.k12.ga.us

Teacher: Mr. Jason Thorne
Date: 2018-2019 School Year

Course Title: Band & Orchestra
Grade Level: 6th-8th Grade

Required Textbooks:

Beginning Band-	Traditions of Excellence Book I	Bruce Pearson and Ryan Nowlin
Intermediate Band-	Traditions of Excellence Book I	Bruce Pearson and Ryan Nowlin
Advanced Band-	Traditions of Excellence Book II	Bruce Pearson and Ryan Nowlin

Beginning Orchestra-	Essential Elements for Strings Book I- A Comprehensive String Method
Intermediate Orchestra-	Essential Elements for Strings Book II- A comprehensive String Method

(These texts can be purchased at any local music supply store)

Course Description: Students enrolled in an instrumental music class at Midland Middle School are learning to develop skills and abilities related to the performing art. These are courses designed for students given their current ability level and aptitude for performing music. Students enrolled will perform daily in class as a requirement, and at concerts periodically throughout the school year. These classes utilize the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Band & Orchestra in order to teach and improve student understanding and performance in this performing art.

Course Outline/Objectives: Each week throughout the year, the class will cover the following objectives: posture, playing position, breathing, tone quality, intonation, articulation, style, fingerings, syncopation, rhythm, rhythmic precision, dynamics, balance & blend, and phrasing. In addition students will have weekly musical vocabulary and theory lessons.

Band & Orchestra is a graded core academic subject.

25 points per week	Daily Performance in Rehearsal (Lack of Participation results in loss of points)
50 points per week	Weekly Practice Records (turned in weekly on Wed.)
100 points per test	Playing Tests (Can be retaken during tutoring times)
100 points per test	Written Tests (May be corrected and returned)
500 points per	Concert Participation- The ensembles traditionally participate in two concerts throughout the year, once in the winter and in the spring. Additional performances will be scheduled. A complete calendar will be distributed as the calendar is finalized.

Scheduled Help Sessions: Afterschool assistance may be suggested for students who are struggling with performance concepts. Sessions are also available for students seeking additional help to achieve a higher level. I make myself available until 6:00pm Thursdays and Fridays for any students requiring or requesting assistance. Students must inform me the day prior to ensure I am available.

Teacher/Parent Communication: Parents will be contacted by telephone or email. We are a community responsible for bringing up the students at Midland Middle School. I will phone or e-mail for any number of situations to include; excellence in the classroom performance, character, actions, or if a child is struggling with behavior, or performance.

MMS Band & Orchestra Procedures and Expectations

Procedures:

1. Be on time to class. Students who are not in the classroom by the bell will be marked tardy. Numerous tardies may result in discipline action by the administration.
2. Come prepared to class: instrument, books/music, supplies, **and best positive attitude**. Lack of materials or failure to participate will result in grade reduction.
3. Place instrument cases in band & orchestra locker (free of charge, no lock provided). Purses, Sling Bags, Library Books, and other materials not related to the class should be placed in the locker.
4. Be in your seat, with instrument assembled and Do-Now completed, within 3 min after the bell.
5. Participate throughout the class period; all instruction relates to everyone. Disruptions will not be tolerated in the band/orchestra room. Lack of Participation will result in grade reduction.
6. Take your instrument home nightly to practice. Practice Records will be collected every Wednesday showing 5 nights a week of 20 min practice sessions. Late Practice Records will not be accepted.

Expectations:

1. You will remain quiet and focused in class. Our class is one that is based upon your ability to hear instructions, so your quiet attentiveness is essential.
2. You will be prepared to learn. An instrument that is not ready to play is not helpful; make sure that you have everything you need in order to make beautiful music.
3. You will be respectful of the band & orchestra room and each other.
Our instruments are all expensive, and we don't want them to break. Touch only your instrument.
4. Don't just practice till you play it right, practice until you can't play it wrong.
The better you play the more fun you will have.
5. Instruments in disrepair should be taken to the music shop as quickly as possible.

Connections Community Norms:

1. Be Safe- Being safe within our building is paramount to a quality learning experience. We will be safe in the band & orchestra room when we are acknowledging and respecting others personal space, and property.
2. Be Kind- Being kind is a skill that we must develop to be effective members of society. We will be kind in the band & orchestra room when we use good manners, words, and appropriate tone when speaking to others in the classroom.
3. Be Engaged- Staying focused and on task in the classroom will lead you to understand the content better. We will be engaged in the band & orchestra room when we are prepared for class and offer substance to the class atmosphere.

I believe that the music making experience is most closely related to family. We will rely on each other throughout the year to create beautiful and exiting music. I promise to bring every tool I have available to me to help you do that. I know you will do the same.

Let's have a great year in the Midland Middle School Band & Orchestra!

Please keep these forms for your records.

Instrument & Accessories Selection Guide

The following is a list of orchestra director approved instruments and accessories. Students are responsible for renting or purchasing and maintaining their own instruments. Students that use a school-owned instrument are still required to obtain the appropriate accessories and cleaning supplies.

Instrument	Suggested Brands	Suggested Accessories
Violin	Mendini, Franz Hoffmann Amadeus, Cecilio Natural Wood Instruments Only	Rosin, Cleaning Cloth, Shoulder Rest, 3-Ring Binder for Orchestra only, Pencil, Metronome/Tuner
Viola	Mendini, Franz Hoffmann Amadeus, Cecilio Natural Wood Instruments Only	Rosin, Cleaning Cloth, Shoulder Rest, 3-Ring Binder for Orchestra only, Pencil, Metronome/Tuner
Cello	D'Luca, Merano, Cecilio, Yamaha Natural Wood Instruments Only	Rosin, Cleaning Cloth, Rock Stop, 3-Ring Binder for Orchestra only, Pencil, Metronome/Tuner
Bass	Becker, Merano, Rata, Cecilio Natural Wood Instruments Only	Rosin, Cleaning Cloth, Rock Stop, 3-Ring Binder for Orchestra only, Pencil, Metronome/Tuner

MONDAY-THURSDAY

8:40		1st Bell of the Day
8:50	9:00	Chromebook Pickup
9:03	10:03	1st Period Adv Band
10:06	11:06	2nd Period Int Band
11:09	12:09	3rd Period Int Orch
12:12	1:44	4th Period Beg Orch
1:47	2:47	5th Period Beg Band
2:50	3:50	6th Period Planning

FRIDAY

8:40		1st Bell of the Day
8:50	9:00	Chromebook Pickup
9:03	09:59	1st Period Adv Band
10:02	10:58	2nd Period Int Band
11:01	11:57	3rd Period Int Orch
12:00	1:25	4th Period Beg Orch
1:28	2:24	5th Period Beg Band
2:27	2:52	House Advisement
2:55	3:50	6th Period Planning

Spring Performance Schedule

January			
11 th	All State Band Second Round Auditions @Union Grove Middle School Selected Band Students		Beginning Orchestra Festival @Veterans Memorial Middle School
11 th	All State Orchestra Second Round Auditions @Westminster School in Atlanta Selected Orchestra Students		Selected Beginning Orchestra Students
February			
7 th -8 th	Honor Band Event and Performance @LaGrange College Selected Band Students		Beginning Band Festival @Blackmon Road Middle School Selected Beginning Band Students Orchestra Solo & Ensemble @Aaron Cohn Middle School
			Selected Orchestra Students and Ensembles
		23 rd	6pm-730pm Night of the Arts @Midland Selected Students
March		May	
5 th -7 th	All State Band Orchestra Event @Athens Georgia	7 th	Chorus Spring Concert @Solid Rock
9 th -11 th	Choral LGPE @First Baptist Church of Columbus Selected Choirs at Midland	14 th	Band and Orchestra Spring Concert @Midland All Band and Orchestra Students
11 th -12 th	Orchestra LGPE @G.W. Carver High School Intermediate Orchestra Students		
19 th -20 th	Band LGPE @Rainey-McCullers School of the Arts Advanced Band Students		