

A Parents Guide To Band Google Classroom - Trimester 2, 2020/2021 School Year

Dear Parents

Below you will find a list of all the work we have completed inside of google classroom up to Feb 10, 2021.

Several thoughts:

I hope at this point you have taken a look at both Skyward AND Google Classroom to see what grades your students have for each assignment. I would like to point out that if your kids have a ZERO for an assignment it is simply because they have chosen to not turn anything in. We have also had the discussion in class many times that if for some reason students feel that Skyward does not reflect the work that they have turned in that they should come see us. Sometimes I do miss getting an assignment updated properly.

Also in considering how much time students should be taking to complete band assignments keep in mind the following - Writing assignments are on purpose meant to be quick and to the point. In fact several of them are simply a sentence or two. NoteFlight assignments are going to take a little longer but if the students follow the tips I've demonstrated in our Google Meets they can work pretty fast if they understand how to read sheet music. Out of the recordings students have to submit four were based off of music we worked on in class, two were Christmas songs (or if they wanted to they could pick something different), and one was a song that they themselves created keeping in mind that they had to perform it. In other words - compose something simple enough that they could play it. Which means it's only as difficult as they make it, they have a chance to show me they understand their level of playing. So in other words a seniors work should be a bit more difficult than a freshman because they have had more band experience.

I have included in this pack several pieces of music that are also found inside of Google Classroom but I thought it might be easier if the kids had them printed out. All materials and further instructions are all found inside of Google Classroom.

Also in the packet is a list of ALL Band grades from this Trimester. There are several grades that are not based in Google Classroom. This will allow you to see those grades as well - these other grades are more based off from group work and achievement. Google Classroom grades are based more on individual performance/demonstration of the students comprehension of our classwork.

Last of all - There is not much time at the start of the school day for students to ask for help. I do have 15 minutes before 8AM. Lunch times are 30 minutes during which I am willing to offer guidance. We can even help answer questions DURING class! Your kids need to simply ask for help and then turn their assignments in.

Let me know how else I can assist.

Paul Shimmons
Band Director
Farwell Area Schools

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Band Assigned Work Outline

As of February 10, 2021 this is an OUTLINE of assigned work for Band. Further details can be found inside Google Classroom. I see Marvin has parent access to Google Classroom for both of the kids.

Types of Work Outline

We have worked on the following types of work this semester:

1)NoteFlight - this provides the students the opportunity to demonstrate understanding of musical notation.

We have done two types of work in NoteFlight

1)Type notes for a song into Noteflight which requires them to demonstrate their ability to read and notate music.

2)Compose a Song which gives them full freedom to create their own melody that is within their ability to perform.

2)SoundCheck - provides a chance for the students to perform on their instruments and instantly gives them feedback as to how they did. Also provides them information about how to instantly make improvements. Best of all it gives us Directors a chance to hear each individual student perform on their instruments by themselves.

3)BandLab - requires the students to record themselves performing on their instruments. Also develops their ability to follow a metronome or to follow a demo recording. BandLab also gives us the ability for students to work collaboratively even while on virtual learning.

4)Writing - Using Google Docs or by simply typing in a response to the question posed in the assignment students write short responses. These are meant to be short - often SUPER SHORT. These writing assignments are also usually their opinion about what they just heard or read. It is impossible to get a zero on these UNLESS they have not turned anything in.

5)MusicTheory.net - online quiz of students ability to identify different key signatures.

Times to Complete Outline

I have also included a sheet on how long it possibly might take a student to complete each assignment. Remember, each week we were virtual students were expected to be "in class" for 70 minutes a day. So if you add up the length of our Google Meets and the time required to complete the assignments you will find that does NOT add up to 350 minutes or time required.

The easiest and quickest assignment were the writing/listening - seriously, these should take like 10-15 minutes for the longest ones.

NoteFlight assignments are more time.

SoundChecks are also going to take a few times through the music before a student is happy with their recording. Of course it is important to remember that we are not producing a million dollar album here and at some point you just need to turn the assignment in!

BandLab assignment will also require students a few times through the recording to "get it right"

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WEEK ONE

W1 BobSled Take 2



Use BandLab to Record 16 measures of a piece of music that we had been working on in class before we left for virtual learning. Make sure to follow the demo recording.

W1 Late Work



Write your opinion about turning in late work

W1 Christmas Carol Groups



Use BandLab to record one part of a quartet arrangement of a Christmas Carol using the music we handed out before going virtual. Make sure to follow the metronome!

W1 Let It Snow NoteFlight



Using the music provided type the notes into NoteFlight then copy and paste those notes into a part for your instrument



WEEK TWO

W2 BobSled Final Take



Use BandLab to record yourself playing the entire BobSled Run piece into NoteFlight - Make sure to follow the demo recording! Also record a video of yourself at the same time.

W2 Writing



Read the information about the new headphones Apple had just released that same day, watch several of the videos and write a paragraph about your reaction in Google Docs

W2 Composition NoteFlight/SoundCheck



Compose a 12 measure melody in NoteFlight that YOU can then record in SoundCheck

W2 Guess the Melody



Enter the music for the first two measures of two different Christmas tunes into NoteFlight.

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WEEK THREE

W3 Christmas Trio Recording



Using the music provided (or any other trio you'd like) type these notes into NoteFlight for all three parts. Then record yourself in playing the three parts in BandLab.

W3 Listening



Listen to the two YouTube videos then write a short paragraph about your thoughts on why they sound so different and why they leave you with such different feelings/thoughts.



WEEK FOUR

No assignments were given in Google Classroom this week - catch up and ask questions or ask for help.



WEEK FIVE

W5 Red River Valley - NoteFlight



Using the music provided type these notes into NoteFlight for all three parts.

W5 Listening



Listen to the YouTube video and write two things you noticed.



WEEK SIX

W6 Red River Valley - BandLab



Using the music you entered into NoteFlight record yourself playing the three parts in BandLab.

W6 Reading



Read this interview or watch the video about the famous composer/arranger who just passed away. Leave a comment about something that stuck out in your head. Make sure your comment is different from the rest of the class.

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WEEK SEVEN

W7 Name The Scales



Using the technique we discussed in our Google Meet (as well as every year in band since like 6th or 7th grade) Identify these Key Signatures. You must have 50 or more at an 80% accuracy. Turn in the report when successful.

W7 Apollo March: Intro and A Section



Record yourself performing the Introduction and the A Section of the march that we have been working on in class. You must be able to get at least an 80%

Different Types of Work



- W5 - Red River Valley - (Enter three parts)
- W3 - Christmas Trio - (Enter three parts)
- W2 - Guess Melody (Enter four measures)
- W2 - Composition - (Compose a 12 measure melody)
- W1 - Let It Snow (One Melody)



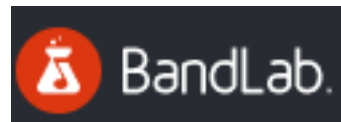
- W7 - Apollo March
- W2 - Composition



- W7 - Name your Key Signatures

Writing

- W6 - Sammy Nestico (write several sentences)
- W5 - Gadget (write two sentences)
- W3 - Major/Minor Listening Opinion (paragraph)
- W2 - Headphones Opinion (paragraph)
- W1 - Late Work Opinion (paragraph)



- W6 - Red River (Record 3 parts)
- W3 - Christmas Trio (Record 2 part)
- W2 - BobSled (Record full song along with the demo)
- W1 - Christmas Carol (Record your part)
- W1 - BobSled Run (16 measures)

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Times it should take - of course these are estimates!



WEEK ONE (Virtual) -

Keep in mind that students were expected to be "in class" 350 minutes each of these virtual weeks.

W1 BobSled Take 2 - 30 minutes?

W1 Late Work - 10 Minutes tops

W1 Christmas Carol Groups - 30 minutes?

W1 Let It Snow NoteFlight - 60 minutes



WEEK TWO (Virtual)

W2 BobSled Final Take - It's a 2 minutes song so how well do you know your part?

W2 Writing - 30 minutes if you are a slow writer/reader

W2 Composition NoteFlight/SoundCheck - 30 minutes?

W2 Guess the Melody - 30 minutes?



WEEK THREE (Virtual)

W3 Christmas Trio Recording - 1.5 hours

W3 Listening - 20 minutes



WEEK FOUR

No assignments - ask questions or ask for help. How long does that take?



WEEK FIVE (Virtual)

W5 Red River Valley - NoteFlight - 1 hour

W5 Listening - 10 minutes



WEEK SIX

W6 Red River Valley - BandLab - 1 hour

W6 Reading - 20 minutes



WEEK SEVEN

W7 Name The Scales - 30 minutes

W7 Apollo March: Intro and A Section - 5 to 30 minutes

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Week Two Materials

Although all material are included in the original assignment it helps to have paper copies sometimes so I have included these below.

Let It Snow Bass Clef

Musical score for Let It Snow Bass Clef. The score is written in bass clef, 3/4 time, and B-flat major. It consists of seven staves of music. The first staff starts with a triplet of eighth notes (measures 1-3) and a measure rest (measure 4), followed by a measure with a fifth finger fingering (measure 5). The dynamic marking *mf* is present. The second staff begins at measure 8. The third staff begins at measure 13. The fourth staff begins at measure 18 and includes a repeat sign at measure 21. The fifth staff begins at measure 23. The sixth staff begins at measure 28 and includes a dynamic marking *f* at measure 29. The seventh staff begins at measure 33 and includes a dynamic marking *mf* and first/second endings at measures 34-35.

Let It Snow Treble Clef

Musical score for Let It Snow Treble Clef. The score is written in treble clef, 3/4 time, and B-flat major. It consists of seven staves of music. The first staff starts with a triplet of eighth notes (measures 1-3) and a measure rest (measure 4), followed by a measure with a fifth finger fingering (measure 5). The dynamic marking *mf* is present. The second staff begins at measure 8. The third staff begins at measure 13. The fourth staff begins at measure 18 and includes a repeat sign at measure 21. The fifth staff begins at measure 23. The sixth staff begins at measure 28 and includes a dynamic marking *f* at measure 29. The seventh staff begins at measure 33 and includes a dynamic marking *mf* and first/second endings at measures 34-35.

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Week 3 Materials

One possible choice

2. Jingle Bells

The musical score for "Jingle Bells" is presented in three systems, each with three staves labeled A, B, and C. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 92. The score includes a first ending and a second ending. The first ending is marked with a bracket and the number "1." above it, and the second ending is marked with a bracket and the number "2." above it. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.