

James Workman Middle School

2010-2011 Band Syllabus

School Information

James Workman Middle School
Ms. Jennifer Dean, Band Director
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Section I

Course Details

Course Description: James Workman Middle School offers three different band courses for students to participate in: Beginning Band, Concert Band and Wind Ensemble. Students who play the flute, clarinet (Bb or Bass), oboe, bassoon, saxophone (alto, tenor or baritone), French horn, trumpet, euphonium/baritone, trombone, tuba, percussion, bass guitar or piano may participate in any of the groups offered.

Course Aims: Participation in JWMS ensembles will help students build confidence, develop self-discipline, develop time management skills, work towards individual and group goals, conquer performance anxiety, develop leadership skills and learn to enjoy listening to and playing music.

What will happen in class?

Tardy Policy: **Class begins when the bell rings.** At that point, students need to be in their chair with a music stand and have both their music and their instrument with them in their seat. Students may need an additional minute to get out their instrument and begin warming up. Each student should also have a sharpened pencil on their stand to use during the rehearsal. "Pencil checks" will be performed periodically throughout the school year to make sure that students have pencils available to them during class. Ms. Dean will sell pencils and have them available for sale before school or after school for 25 cents each.

Literature and Sight-reading: During rehearsal we will work on producing a good tone quality, technique, music theory, music vocabulary and music history. We will also learn music to be performed at concerts and/or festivals (which will be announced in advance). In addition to

the music we will learn for concerts and festivals, we will periodically sight-read music in class to further develop our sight-reading skills.

Listening: As a performer myself, I believe that it is very important to know what a “good sound” is. How are you supposed to progress as a musician if you don’t know what you are working towards? *How are you supposed to produce a great tone quality if you don’t know what a great tone quality sounds like?* I highly encourage all of you to “surf” amazon.com or ITUNES and find CD’s of musicians who play your instrument. I have my own recommendations for each instrument, so if you can’t decide or you want some help selecting a CD, please come see me. Periodically we will listen to recordings during class and we will talk about the music and the performer and even write about the music and the performer in our journals.

All students will need to bring the following items to class everyday:

- Pencil (notice this is first on the list)
- 3-ring binder with your band music in plastic sheets
- Syllabus (in a plastic sheet or through the 3 holes)
- Band Book (in front left pocket)
- Instrument (and all cleaning supplies)
- School Organizer (to record all rehearsals and concert dates)

Section II

Classroom Rules, Classroom Procedures and Discipline

Classroom Rules:

1. All school rules and dress codes apply.
2. No food or drinks in the band room (bottled water is permitted).
Why? We do not need ants or other gross bugs in your locker or worse yet, your instrument case. Also keep in mind that you share this room with 180 of your classmates.
3. Do not touch anything that does not belong to you.
This includes instruments and instrument cases and backpacks!
4. Once the bell rings you are to be seating in your chair (or standing in your section area for percussion).
Anyone out of their seat (or seated/ standing in another section in the room) after the bell rings will be written up for class disruption (this is known as the “Jordan Rule”).
5. Please raise your hand if you have a question or comment to make.
Please do not blurt out your response.
6. Do not enter the band/choir office unless you have specific permission from Ms. Dean. Please respect your fellow students’ privacy and wait at the door if they are already in the office talking to a teacher.

Classroom Procedures:

1. Enter the classroom and get your instrument and music out of your locker. Please put your back pack under your chair (so that I don’t trip over it when I walk around the classroom).
2. Get your pencil out and put it on your music stand. Put your music on your stand and open up your band book. Put your instrument together and close your instrument case. Place your instrument case on the left side of your chair (so that I don’t trip over it when I walk around the classroom). Tuba, Baritone Saxophone, Baritone students are exempt from this.

3. Begin to warm-up on your instrument with scales, long tones or test material.
 - Please make sure to make “pretty” sounds, don’t blast. Blasting is not a beneficial warm-up and your classmates and I do not want to listen to it. If I need to ask you more than once to stop blasting, then I will ask you to pack up your instrument for the day.
4. BELL RINGS – Play a concert Bb and hold it until the teacher cuts you off.
 - When the bell rings everyone should be seated in their chair ready for instruction. If you are not in your chair, you are considered late/tardy.
 - ***If we start on time, we end on time!*** What that means is if you waste time at the beginning of the class, I will hold you at the end of class.
You decide whether or not we begin/end on time.
 - **If I raise one of my hands in the air, this means you are to stop playing immediately and listen for instruction.**
5. Rehearsal begins
 - Please do not talk during rehearsal unless called upon. *It is considered **rude and disrespectful** if you talk while the teacher is trying to instruct the class.*
 - Please do not play while the teacher is talking. Once again, *this is considered not only rude but disrespectful if you play while the teacher is trying to instruct the class.*
 - If the teacher asks you to write something down, please follow their directions. *Once again, it is considered not only rude but disrespectful to not write down something the teacher instructs you do to (or deems important to write down).*
6. Teacher will dismiss you around 5 minutes before the bell rings (this is a privilege).
 - Put your music back in your music folder.
 - Clean out any condensation (water) in your instrument prior to putting your instrument in your case. You may also want to wipe down your instrument with a polishing cloth (to get rid of tarnish and finger prints).
Brass instruments: if you don’t clear out the water in your instrument it will turn into a hard, glue-like substance which is very hard to clean out. Please make sure to empty your spit valves at the end of class.
Woodwind instrument: if you don’t clean out your mouthpiece (and take your reed off) then mold will begin to grow inside your mouthpiece and on your reed. Make sure to take the reed off of your mouthpiece at the end of class.
 - Put your instrument and music in your locker and return to your seat.
 - Wait to be dismissed by the teacher. **The teacher dismisses you not the bell!**

Classroom Discipline:

The school discipline procedures will be followed. See the discipline procedures posted in the classroom for more details.

Band Trips and the Exclusion List: If a band student is placed on the exclusion list (for gum, food, or tardies) prior to a band trip (such as the SCSBOA Festival or the Forum/Knott’s Berry Farm Trip) this will not jeopardize the student’s participation for the trip/event. However, if Ms Dean assigns you a Referral for defiance/distraction or disrespect 30 days prior to a band trip, that student will not participate in the band trip.

Section III

How you will be graded

Daily participation in class and Listening Assignments **10% of final grade**

- Students will receive 5 participation points per day. You need to have all of the following materials in order to receive your full 5 participation points. You need to have: your instrument, your music, a pencil to write with (not a pen) and your undivided attention during class.
 - If you fail to have all of your materials for class, you will lose all of your participation points. For example, you forgot your band book/music at home. If you do not have your music, you can not follow the instruction for the class for today. Because you can not follow instruction with the class and participate with the class, you will lose all of your participation points for the day (5 points).
 - In the event that you do not have your instrument because it is in the shop for repair, you must bring a note from your parent stating that your instrument is in for repair. If you do not bring a note, you will lose your participation points for that day.
 - In the event that a student is disruptive during class (and is written up for their choice of behavior), that student will also lose his/her participation points for the day. These points can not be made up.

Listening Assignments

Students must attend 3 concerts each *trimester*.

- Students must fill out a questionnaire about the concert or write a two paragraph essay on what they heard and saw at the concert (required)
- A list of venues will be provided by Ms. Dean and will be posted in the band room.
- Students are highly encouraged to attend at least one professional performance each trimester (McCallum Theatre, Annenberg Theatre, City Concert, etc)

Practice Cards

30% of final grade

- Due between Monday and Wednesday of each week (for the previous week).
No late practice cards will be accepted past Wednesday the week they are due.
- Practice cards must have the following information in order to receive a grade:
 - Your name
 - Your class period
 - The week of the semester and semester number
 - Minutes totaled on the front of the practice card (you must total them)
 - You must fill out the weekly homework section (what to practice).
(NEW RULE!!!)
 - You must list what you practiced each day. If you fail to write anything down, the card is given a zero. **(NEW RULE!!!)**
 - A parent signature must be present in order to receive a grade.
No parent signature, no grade! **(NEW RULE!!!)**
- Notes on practice cards:

- Practice cards that have no name on them will be discarded (thrown away).

Written and Playing Tests **30% of final grade**

- Playing tests will be given each week in front of the class.
- An option for extra credit will be given from time to time. I encourage all of you to take advantage of extra credit when possible.
 - Types of extra credit given: play the exercise/piece memorized, play the exercise/piece at a faster tempo, play additional exercises that are not required (arpeggio exercise, interval exercises, second octaves in scales, etc.).
- A rubric for all playing tests will be passed out the first week of school. This rubric is based on the requirements for solo and ensemble festival and band festival. The testing rubric will also be posted in the band room for you to refer to when needed.

Test Day at JWMS

- Fridays will be reserved for testing. On Fridays, students will enter the classroom and get out their instrument and music and go over any last minute fingerings that they need to run through (I will give you ample time to review before testing begins).
- Students are encouraged to quietly finger through their part while fellow classmates are testing, as long as it is not disruptive. Talking is not permitted during testing (unless otherwise instructed to do so).

Attendance at Performances **30% of final grade**

- Please note that if your student misses a band concert and does not have prior parent and teacher consent, they will receive an F for their trimester concert grade. Failure to “disseminate” at the concert will most likely result in the student receiving a final grade of an “F” for the trimester in band. **It is VERY important that every student shows up for each concert and all festival performances.** This is a team! We can not function correctly unless all of the members are at the concert and participating.
- All rehearsals lead up to the final “dissemination,” the performance! Students need to write down all events in their school planner/calendar and on their family calendar as soon as an event is announced. Any conflicts should be resolved as soon as possible, well in advance of the concert date. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE WEEK OF THE CONCERT TO TELL ME YOU HAVE A CONFLICT.
- Please give your parents all concert information sheets and extra rehearsal sheets AS SOON AS I GIVE THEM TO YOU. I recommend that you write down all rehearsals and concerts/performances in your agenda, as well as, on your family calendar. If you don't have a “family calendar” I strongly recommend that you start one.

Section IV

James Workman Calendar

*Please note that events may be added or deleted from this list.

Updated calendars may be passed out during the year.

2009 Concerts and Events

September 23 rd	Instrument Rental Night <i>7th and 8th Graders Rental Night</i>	5:00PM-7:00PM
October 22 nd	CCHS Band Day/Football Game <i>(Concert Band and Wind Ensemble Students Only)</i>	TBA
October 27 th and 28 th	Instrument Rental Night <i>6th Graders Rental Night</i>	5:00PM-7:00PM
December 2 nd	JWMS WE/CB Fall Concert	6:30 PM

2010 Concerts and Events

January 13 th	JWMS Beginning Band Winter Concert <i>Combo Concert with the JWMS Choir</i>	6:30 PM
January 28 th	JWMS/NNC/CCHS Combo Concert <i>(Concert Band and Wind Ensemble Students Only)</i>	6:30 PM
January 29 th	Solo/Ensemble Festival <i>(This event is mandatory for all Wind Ensemble and Concert Band Students)</i>	TBA
February 24 th	JWMS WE/CB Winter Concert	6:30 PM
March 19 th	SCSBOA District Band Festival <i>(Wind Ensemble and Concert Band only)</i>	TBA
April 28 th	JWMS Beginning Band Spring Concert <i>Combo Concert with the JWMS Choir</i>	6:30PM
May 12 th or 13 th	SCSBOA Regional Band Festival <i>(In the event that the Wind Ensemble or Concert Band receive a Superior rating at band festival, they are invited to perform here)</i>	TBA
May 20 th	Forum Festival/Knott's Performance <i>(Wind Ensemble and Concert Band eligible to attend)</i>	TBA
May 24 th	JWMS WE/CB End of the Year Concert <i>Combo Concert with the JWMS Choir</i>	6:30 PM

*TBA is an acronym for "to be announced"

Section V

Solo and Ensemble Festival and Honor Bands

SCSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival

www.scsboa.org

Students will have the opportunity this year to participate in Solo and Ensemble Festival. Solo and Ensemble festival consists of students from middle school to high school age performing solos, duets, trios, quartets, quintets, etc, for a judge who listens to the performance and then grades the performance. Students can earn a Superior, Excellent, Good, Fair, or Poor rating (like the Band festival we attend in March). If a student earns a Superior rating, they will have the honor and invitation to compete at the Regional level. The Regional Solo and Ensemble competition usually takes place at a university in southern California.

Solos and Ensembles will take a lot of work on your behalf. You will have to practice not only your part, but will have to attend rehearsals with your ensemble to learn how your individual part fits in with the whole.

Students should pick out their piece sometime between November and December and start to work on their parts individually at first and later work on their piece with their ensemble. I will be available after school for help if you would like me to listen to your group. I encourage you to have someone outside of your group listen to you. When you are performing you cannot always catch all of your mistakes. I will also have solo and ensemble sheet music available for you to look through and play (you will need to check out materials with the librarians).

The festival for Solo and Ensemble will begin in early February. A local festival will be hosted at Raymond Cree Middle School on February 7th and many more festivals are offered throughout Southern California. Palm Desert Middle School and Colonel Paige Middle School also host Solo and Ensemble Festivals each year.

Please note that all wind ensemble and concert band students are required to participate in Solo and Ensemble festival this year.

As a musician myself, I have learned the most about playing through my solo and ensemble experiences. **You will become a better musician from participating in this experience.** I will provide a pianist for any of you who would like to learn a solo or ensemble that uses piano as accompaniment. There is a cost to participate in this event. Please see Ms. Dean for more details.

Honor Groups/Extra Curricular Music Ensembles

Honor Groups

The following are groups that you may audition for this year. All of these groups require extra rehearsals outside of JWMS. You will need to learn scales, arpeggios, a solo/etude and you may be asked to sight read at the audition. Audition requirements vary upon the audition. Please check the honor band board or see Ms. Dean for more information.

King Karl King Honor Band	Spring
SCSBOA Junior High Honor Band	Winter
PSUSD Junior High Honor Band	Spring
Buddy Rodgers Youth Symphony	All-year
Univ. of Redlands CSMA Student Orchestra	All-year

Section VI

End of the Year Finals

Wind Ensemble Final at the end of the year

- All 12 Major Scales and Arpeggios (plus Chromatic)
 - *7th Graders must perform scales at least one octave and 8th graders must perform scales at least two octaves. If a 7th grader performs a scale two octaves, extra credit will be given. If an 8th grader performs a scale one octave, one letter grade will be subtracted for that scale.*
- Sight-Reading Packet – Be able to play all music in the sight-reading packet.
- Music Vocabulary Test (terms will be taken from a vocabulary sheet passed out in the Winter and Spring trimester)

Concert Band Final at the end of the year

- All 12 Major Scales and Arpeggios (plus Chromatic)
 - *Scales must be performed at least one octave. Extra credit will be given for all scales played two octaves.*
- Sight-Reading Packet – Be able to play all music in the sight-reading packet.
- Music Vocabulary Test (terms will be taken from a vocabulary sheet passed out in the Winter and Spring trimester)

Beginning Band Final at the end of the year

- 4 Major Scales (Concert F, Bb, Eb, Ab) and Chromatic Scale test
 - At least one octave. Extra credit will be given for all scales played two octaves or memorized.
- Clap and Tap Packet – Be able to clap and count all music in the Clap and Tap packet.
- Music Vocabulary Test (all terms available in your beginning band book)

Section VII

Other

REQUIRED SUPPLIES

Each student will need the following accessories for their instrument:

Flute Cleaning/tuning rod, cleaning swab (for inside)

Clarinet Cleaning swab, cork grease, reed case, at least four working reeds

Oboe Cleaning swab, cork grease, at least three working reeds

Bassoon Cleaning swab, cork grease, at least three working reeds

Saxophone Cleaning swab, reed case, at least four working reeds

Trumpet Valve oil, slide grease, cleaning snake, mouthpiece brush cleaner

French Horn Slide grease, rotary valve oil, cleaning snake, mouthpiece brush cleaner

Trombone Slide cream (not oil!), small spray/pump water bottle, cleaning rod

Tuba Valve oil, mouthpiece brush cleaner

Percussion All Percussion: Percussion/Bell kit (bells, bell mallets, pair of drum sticks (with name on them), drum pad, drum/bell stand)

*Please note: All of the above supplies can be purchased before or after school in the band office or from one of the traveling music store representatives. The prices are as follows:

Single Reeds

Clarinet Reeds

Bb Vandoren \$3.00

Bass Clarinet Vandoren \$4.00

Oboe Reeds

Good Tone Guild \$10.00

Bassoon Reeds

Good Tone Guild \$14.00

Saxophone Reeds

Vandoren – Alto Sax \$ 3.00

Hemke - Alto Sax \$ 3.00

Hemke - Tenor Saxophone \$ 5.00

Hemke - Baritone Saxophone \$ 6.00

Valve Oil (small) \$ 3.00

Valve Oil (large) \$ 4.00

Trombone Slide Cream \$ 9.00

Cork Grease \$ 3.00

Brass Slide Grease \$ 3.00

Band books will be for sale in the band room before school and after school (at the beginning of the year). You can either purchase your band book at school or through a local music store.

Also for sale:

Swabs

Flute Swabs (Yamaha 2 pack)	\$ 4.00
Clarinet Swabs (Yamaha)	\$ 9.00
Oboe Swabs	\$ 8.00
Saxophone Swabs	\$ 6.00

Mouthpiece Cleaners, Cloths, Neckstraps and Ligatures

Clarinet/Alto Sax Mouthpiece cleaners	\$ 2.00
Brass Mouthpiece Cleaners	\$ 2.00
Silver Polishing Cloth	\$ 5.00
Lacquer Polishing Cloth (brass)	\$ 5.00
Rovner Clarinet or Alto Sax Ligature (dark)	\$23.00
Saxophone Neck Strap	\$23.00

Electronic Accessories and Music Stands

Korg Metronome	\$30.00
Korg TM-40 Metronome/Tuner Combo	\$35.00
Wire Music Stand (one level)	\$15.00
Hamilton Wire Music Stand (two level)	\$25.00
Manhasset Music Stand (black, metal)	\$35.00

Contact Information for Music Stores who rent instruments:

Nick Rail Music Store	www.nickrailmusic.com
1770 Orange Tree Lane Redlands, CA 92374	909-798-9998
HOURS OF OPERATION Monday thru Friday 10 - 7 Saturday 10 - 5 Sunday Closed	

Bertrand's Music Store	www.bertrandsmusic.com
910 E. Highland Ave. San Bernardino, CA 92404	(909) 886-5338 (800) 696-5338 Toll Free
HOURS OF OPERATION Monday thru Friday 10 - 6 Saturday 10 - 5 Sunday Closed	

Musician's Outlet	www.musiciansbestfriend.com
44850 San Pablo Palm Desert, CA 92260	760-341-3171
HOURS OF OPERATION Call for hours of operation	

Lockers

All students will be issued a locker space in the band room where they can store their instrument and music during the day. They may also use their locker to store textbooks for class. Do not store any food or drinks in your locker.

You are expected to take home your instrument every day. If your instrument is in your locker all night, it is not at home being used to practice. ☺

Instrument drop off - Please drop off your instrument before you go to your first class of the day. If you should show up late to school, make sure to drop off your instrument before you go to your first class. If you should need to leave school early, make sure to stop by the band room and pick up your instrument. If the room is locked because I am not there, please stop by the front office and let them know you need your instrument from the band room. They may help you get your instrument. Please make sure to enter and exit the band room quietly. *Please do not ask a non-band student to drop off or pick up your instrument.*

Instruments

All students need to rent, borrow or purchase their own band instruments. Some larger school instruments are available for check-out such as: bassoons, oboes, trombones, French horns, and tubas. Students must keep instruments in good condition. **Students using school instruments will be charged for repairs such as bent keys or broken parts or any other damage not due to normal wear and tear** (replacements of pads, corks, etc. is considered normal wear and tear).

If you are interested in borrowing a school instrument for the year, you must turn in a note to Ms. Dean. The earlier you turn in the note, the better. Instruments are available, "first come, first serve."

Beginning band students: PLEASE DO NOT rent or purchase an instrument until you have communicated with me on recommended brands. Parents, it is very important for your child's success that they have an instrument that can remain in good working condition and is of good quality. If you have any questions regarding the purchase or rent of an instrument, please do not hesitate to email me at jdean@psusd.us

Name Tags: **All students are REQUIRED to have their name clearly visible on their instrument case at all times.** Sturdy luggage tags are suggested. If your name is not on your instrument, the office and security at JWMS does not know who it belongs to. Students must store their instrument in their assigned locker. **Personalized name tags will be for sale at the beginning of the year. Simply print your name, address and phone number on a piece of paper and return it to Ms. Dean with \$2.00 to reserve your luggage tag.**

Instrument Insurance: I strongly recommend that parents keep a record somewhere of the serial number, make and model of your instrument. It is also a good idea to check your homeowners insurance to make sure you are covered if the instrument is stolen. If you do not have adequate insurance, there are some instrument insurance companies that I can recommend. *Clarion and Anderson are good instrument insurance companies that I personally have experience with.* Clarion is available at www.clarionins.com and Anderson is available at www.anderson-group.com Some music stores offer instrument insurance and repair

deductibles for their instruments. I highly recommend both of these options. Typically instrument insurance through a music store, runs about \$3.00 a month (or more depending on the instrument). Check with the local music store you are renting from for the correct price. Repair deductibles can save you from a hefty repair bill should something happen to your instrument. Check with your local music store for more information.

Performance Attire

Students are expected to look their best at all performances. The first impression you will make with the audience will be **what you are wearing and how you look**. You will need to dress up for the following events: evening concerts, field trip concerts, solo and ensemble festival and band festival. Students are highly encouraged to style their hair for each performance and to make sure to iron/press their tuxedo outfits before the performance. **The first impression you make on your audience is the most important one!**

Wind Ensemble

Ladies: Black dress pants with a white tuxedo shirt and black shoes (with black socks) or black sandals (dress shoes). A teal cummerbund and tie will need to be purchased at the Tuxedo Exchange on Date Palm Drive.

Men: Black dress pants with a white tuxedo shirt and black shoes (with black socks). A teal cummerbund and tie will need to be purchased at the Tuxedo Exchange on Date Palm Drive.

Concert Band

Ladies: Black dress pants with a white tuxedo shirt and black shoes (with black socks) or black sandals (dress shoes). A purple cummerbund and tie will need to be purchased at the Tuxedo Exchange on Date Palm Drive.

Men: Black dress pants with a white tuxedo shirt and black shoes (with black socks). A purple cummerbund and tie will need to be purchased at the Tuxedo Exchange on Date Palm Drive.

Tuxedo Exchange

(Located across the street from Applebee's on Date Palm)
32475 Date Palm Drive
Cathedral City, CA 92234
760-321-7171

***If you purchase the full set
(includes pants, shirt, tie and cummerbund) the price will be \$60.***

If you need to purchase separate parts then the prices are as follows: Pants are \$24.00, Tuxedo Shirt is \$15.00, Cummerbund is \$10.00 and a Tie is \$7.50.

Tuxedo Exchange Store Hours (subject to change)

Mon. & Fri. 10:00 - 6:30 PM

Tue, Wed, Thurs. 10:00 - 6:00 PM

Sat. 10:00 - 5:00 PM

Sunday Closed

Beginning Band

Ladies and Men: Band t-shirt (which you will need to purchase) and blue jeans. Any type of shoes is acceptable.

*Students should not wear any of the following to a concert: shorts (any color), skirts above knee level (no mini skirts).

Section VIII

Student and Parent/Guardian Contract

We (student and parents/guardians) have read, understand and agree to all the terms/conditions contained within this syllabus. We understand that the student's grade will be severely affected should materials not be brought to class. We also understand that our child's grade will also be severely affected if they fail to perform at concerts/festivals. We also understand that our child needs to commit to practicing their instrument consistently in order to help the James Workman Middle School band maintain a high standard of excellence.

Student Name _____
(Please print legibly so that I can read whose form this is, thank you)

Class Period _____

Date _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Parent Name (print) _____

Email Address _____

Please provide any and all email addresses so that I can keep in contact with you throughout the year. I am very good with email!

My email is jdean@psusd.us

Daytime Phone _____

Parent Name (print) _____

Email Address _____

Daytime Phone _____