



CEDAR HOLLOW

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Northwest Public Schools

4900 S. Engleman Road, Grand Island, NE 68803

www.ginorthwest.org

January 12, 2016

Dear band parents,

Thank you for continuing to support your child in band.

I have decided that I will make a slight change to the fifth grade band grading policy for this semester. The policy that we are switching to is very similar to the policy I used in the fall with the 6th-8th grade band, and it worked quite well. Having that success, I wanted to use it for fifth grade band as well this spring.

Although I'm enclosing a copy of the policy, I want to highlight the changes:

- Students will now have two options for earning their weekly grade:
- Option 1: Submit a log with 100 minutes (the same way they did fall semester).
- Option 2: Perform the test (at the bottom of each page), instead of the practice requirement.
- Students may also opt to perform the test and submit practice time, likely resulting in extra credit.

Students can make their choice weekly (during their lesson) which option they'd prefer. The idea is that, if a student is able to play the test material with little or no practice, they are not "putting in time" to achieve the rest of their grade. I'm hoping this will help alleviate students becoming bored during practice, and help to focus their efforts when practicing at home.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Email is by far the best way to reach me.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Shawn M. Pfanstiel
Director of Bands
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