



MRS. CHRISTINE BELLESFIELD

MR. RICHARD HUTCHINS

SWIFTWATER INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL MUSIC GRADING POLICY

As a music educator, we believe that music is an important part of the school curriculum. Singing, playing instruments, and creating music enables students to acquire musical skills and knowledge. Learning to read and notate music gives them a skill with which to explore music independently and with others. Listening to, analyzing, and evaluating music are important building blocks of musical learning. This knowledge enables them to begin to understand the connections and relationships between music and other disciplines.

Fifth and sixth graders have the option to participate in chorus or general music. Fourth grade chorus members rehearse during the general music time once each six day cycle. Permission slips must be returned two weeks after receiving the form. Students who continuously disrupt the choral rehearsal and/or have an unsatisfactory level of participation will be sent to the general music class. **Please keep in mind that chorus is a graded class and your child is expected to attend and perform in the evening concert. Students with an unexcused absence from the evening concert will receive a grade of 0.** Students in chorus will remain in chorus until after each performance. They are not allowed to change their minds once chorus rehearsals have begun. Students must also remain in chorus all year to participate in the school drama club.

Your child's grade will be determined by:

- 25 % participation-volunteering in class and staying engaged in class activities, responding appropriately to class discussions, playing recorder (grade 4 only)
- 25% positive effort/attitude
- 25% written evaluations/homework
- 25 % class assessments based on vocal and instrumental performances, as well as attendance at choral performances

Study guides will be given to each student one class prior to each written evaluation. Students who are absent will also be given a study guide. If a student does not receive a study guide or misplaces theirs, please make sure to get another one from Mrs. Bellesfield.

All assignments, evaluations, and grades can be checked online and **you are encouraged to check them periodically to keep informed of your child's progress.**

The grading system for the school district also applies to the grading for music class.

| | |
|--------|---------------------|
| 92-100 | O/Outstanding |
| 83-91 | G /Good |
| 74-82 | S/Satisfactory |
| 65-73 | N/Needs Improvement |
| 50-64 | U/Unsatisfactory |

Please sign below that you have received a copy of this policy and return the bottom portion to your child's music teacher. Thank you for your cooperation. Should you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail us at christinebellesfield@pmsd.org, or richardhutchins@pmsd.org.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Christine Bellesfield and Mr. Richard Hutchins
General/Vocal Music Teachers

MUSIC GRADING MEMO

I, _____, have read and discussed the music grading policy with a parent or guardian.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

Homeroom Teacher _____