

**Tyler Perrault**

Director of Bands and Orchestras  
Cypress Creek Middle School  
(813) 346-4652  
tperraul@pasco.k12.fl.us

**Principal**

Mr. Tim Light

**Assistant Principal**

Ms. Kayla Nieves

**Assistant Principal**

Ms. Erica Roberts

**Assistant Principal**

Mr. Yamani Vazquez  
Martinez

## Cypress Creek Middle School Music



Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the Cypress Creek Middle School Music Program! I hope everyone had a fun, restful and safe summer. I'm excited that your child has chosen to be a part of or continue with our music program! This handbook will provide you with all the information you will need in reference to different parts of the CCMS Band and Orchestra Program. Any unanswered questions can of course be directed to me at [tperraul@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:tperraul@pasco.k12.fl.us).

Being a part of the Cypress Creek Middle School Music Program means being a part of something greater than yourself. As a member of this band you are expected to set progressive goals in your musicianship and always strive for the highest. In a band program every student is as equally important as the next and the success of this program depends on you!

The Cypress Creek Middle School Bands and Orchestras will be the model of excellence not only in our school, but also throughout our community. We represent the best of Cypress Creek Middle in and outside of school hours and aspire to always be better musicians and students. This work ethic will lead not only to success as a band and orchestra, but also as an individual. Through this we will create a great sense of pride in the Coyote Music Program and at Cypress Creek Middle School!

Thank you for your interest in music and allowing me to share in this exciting time of our students life! Middle School builds the skills and confidence you will need later on as a high school musician. **Your** success is dependent on how hard **you** work. I will be here every step of the way to help you achieve all of your goals.

Musically,  
Tyler Perrault

## Ensembles

**Beginning Band/Band 1:** This year-long band is intended for students with little to no musical experience. This class will focus on mastering the fundamentals of each instrument and the basic technique and ensemble skills. The Beginning Band will perform at 2 concerts during the school year. Students will be assigned an instrument that best fits the students' ability.

**Advanced Band/Band 2 and 3:** This band is open to students at an intermediate or advanced level of development. This group consists of mostly seventh and eighth grade students who have successfully completed the Beginning Band class. This ensemble will help students to build upon the fundamentals learned in Beginning Band, and increase individual technique and musicianship. The Symphonic Band will perform at all concerts and football games during the year and will participate in Music Performance Assessment.

**Beginning Orchestra/Orchestra 1:** This year-long orchestra is intended for students with little to no musical experience. This class will focus on mastering the fundamentals of each instrument and the basic technique and ensemble skills. The Beginning Orchestra will perform at 2 concerts during the school year. Students will be assigned an instrument that best fits the students' ability.

**Advanced Orchestra/Orchestra 2 and 3:** This orchestra is open to students at an intermediate or advanced level of development. This group consists of mostly seventh and eighth grade students who have successfully completed the Beginning Orchestra class. This ensemble will help students to build upon the fundamentals learned in Beginning Orchestra, and increase individual technique and musicianship. The Advanced Orchestra will perform at all concerts during the year and will participate in Music Performance Assessment.

## Supplies

All students will need the following supplies for class everyday. Please communicate with me immediately if there are any issues finding or purchasing these items.

1" Black Binder

At least 10 clear page protectors

A pencil with an eraser

Their instrument with:

- Reed(s)/Mouthpiece, Valve/rotor oil, tuning slide/cork grease, Rosin. More info provided in handbook

Their Concert music and/or the following (all available on Amazon or local retailers):

- Essential Elements book 1 for their assigned instrument (beginning band and beginning orchestra)

Percussion- mallet bag with 1 pair of marimba, & 1 pair of timpani mallets. You will also need a pair of general snare sticks (SD1).

## Instruments

The instruments offered in the Cypress Creek Middle School Band are as follows:

Flute  
Alto Saxophone  
Oboe  
French Horn  
Tuba

Clarinet  
Tenor Saxophone  
Bassoon  
Trombone  
Percussion

Bass Clarinet  
Baritone Saxophone  
Trumpet  
Euphonium

The instruments offered in the Cypress Creek Middle School Orchestra are as follows:

Violin  
Viola  
Cello  
Bass

## Instrument Rental

Students who play the **Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trombone, Percussion, Trumpet, and Cello** are encouraged to rent their own instruments from an outside source. French Horn, Tuba, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Bari Saxophone, Euphonium, and Bass players may rent from a provider or borrow their instrument from CCMS. Students who play the **Violin and Viola** are required to rent an instrument from an outside source. We have limited instruments available for student usage. Please contact Mr. Perrault if you cannot rent. Students borrowing school instruments are responsible for repairs to the instruments and any damages incurred while the instrument is checked out to the student. Instrument check out will be during the first week(s) of school. Donations towards the maintenance of these instruments are encouraged and welcomed.

### Recommended Instrument and Mouthpiece Brands

*When renting or purchasing instruments pay close attention to instrument and/or mouthpiece brands. These brands will help the students to achieve a quality sound.*

- **Flute:** Yamaha, Pearl, Jupiter, Gemeinhardt.
- **Oboe:** Yamaha, Fox, Selmer. Wood model recommended. 3 medium soft reeds: <http://www.oboe.net>
- **Bassoon:** Three medium soft reeds: <http://www.clarkreeds.com>
- **Clarinet:** Size 2.5-3 (3.5 for advanced) Vandoren reeds. Yamaha, Buffet, Leblanc, Selmer. Wood model recommended. Yamaha CL4C mouthpiece recommended.
- **Alto Saxophone:** Size 2.5-3 (3.5 for advanced) Vandoren reeds. Yamaha, Selmer. C\* mouthpiece recommended. Recommended Mouthpiece: Yamaha YACAS4C
- **Tenor Saxophone:** Size 2.5-3 (3.5 for advanced) Vandoren reeds. Yamaha, Selmer. Recommended Mouthpiece: Yamaha YAC TS5C
- **Baritone Saxophone:** Size 3 (3.5 for advanced) Vandoren reeds. Recommended Mouthpiece: Yamaha YAC BS5C
- **Trumpet:** Yamaha, Bach, Jupiter, Holton, Getzen. Size **3c** mouthpiece.
- **French Horn:** Yamaha, Conn, Holton. Yamaha 32C4 mouthpiece
- **Trombone:** Yamaha, Bach, Holton, Conn. Bach , Bach mouthpiece size **6 ½**
- **Euphonium:** Bach 6½ AL or Kelly 6 ½ AL mouthpiece.

- **Tuba:** Bach 18 or Kellyburg mouthpiece.
- **Percussion:** Basic Stick Bag
- **Violin:** Mendini, Yamaha, Amadeus
- **Viola:** Mendini, Yamaha, Amadeus
- **Cello:** Mendini, Stentor, Cremona

A student's final academic grade is determined using the following school-wide grading scale.

**A** = 90 - 100   **B** = 80 - 89   **C** = 70 - 79   **D** = 60 - 69   **F** = 50 - 59

Band and orchestra grades will be based on the following criteria:

### **Weekly Preparation & Daily display of “efficient rehearsal strategies” MU.68.S.3.6**

The daily grade will be based on instrument preparation, being seated and playing in a timely manner (within 3 minutes), and having the required items for class (instrument, music, pencil) at your seat. If we are having a class discussion or doing an activity, it is expected that all students actively participate.

### **Music Binder**

Music Binders are needed everyday and will serve as the student's music folder for performances so they must be kept in good condition. Students must use sheet protectors for their music. ANYTHING handed out in class whether it is music, worksheets, extra resources, etc... are expected to be kept in the music binder for reference. Binder checks will happen regularly though the quarter and students will be given multiple days notice prior to a binder check.

### **Performances**

All performances throughout the year are REQUIRED for all students, and count as a grade. If the absence is excused a make-up assignment will be given. No make-up assignments will be provided for students who had unexcused absence from a performance. Students who miss a significant portion of rehearsals will be unable to perform with our band at the directors discretion.

### **Rehearsal/ Playing/Written Tests**

Playing Tests will be given regularly throughout the quarter. Students may choose their playing tests from the list distributed at the start of the year. Students may not repeat a playing test that has already been completed. The teacher will grade on note accuracy, sound, and effort.

Written tests will be given via paper and pencil or virtually through canvas. These tests help to reinforce note-reading ability and understanding of musical terminology and concepts.

**Late Work** : Late work will be accepted until the end of each quarter.

Standards can be found at <https://www.cpalms.org/public/search/Standard>

District finals are required for all band courses, and principal approved exams for orchestra classes.

Classwork (Binders and weekly preparation) account for 30% of the grade, and assessments (Tests and performances) account for 70%.

**[SEP]**Board Policy for academic dishonesty: Students at all levels are expected to pursue their studies with integrity and honesty in all school settings. All work that a student submits will be the original and authentic work of the individual students unless otherwise specified by the assignment.

**All grades will be posted in Mystudent. I encourage all students to check their grades weekly on Mystudent.**

### **Playing Assessment Rubric**

For the student to successfully pass-off a selection they must perform within the shaded areas. Students that do not reach this the first time may retry as many times as they would like before or after school, or during make up days. Make ups must be completed in the same marking quarter.

	<b>Mastery</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Progressing</b>
Tone and Articulation	Mature and characteristic sound; articulation is consistently correct	Sound and articulation lacking in maturity or consistency	Sound not very full and/or focused; incorrect articulation	Sound unfocused; articulation not audibly present
Posture	Correct in all aspects	Needs minor attention	Inconsistent	Inappropriate or poor
Hand Position	Hands are soft, natural, and placed appropriately	Hands are slightly tense; one or more fingers may be misplaced	Many fingers are misplaced	Hands in incorrectly placed and/or tense
Technique	All or nearly all notes played accurately	Minor mistakes affecting the performance	Numerous wrong notes	Serious errors; almost or wholly unrecognizable
Rhythm	No noticeable errors	Minor errors affecting the performance	Numerous errors	Serious errors; almost or wholly unrecognizable
Tempo	Steady and appropriate	Appropriate, but with some variance	Noticeably incorrect or varied	Tempo uncharacteristic for this selection

### **Music Fair Share**

Each student is required to pay an annual fee of \$25.00. This yearly payment is vital to run a successful band program and will contribute towards the following:

- Upkeep and maintenance for all school owned instruments/equipment.
- Regularly purchasing new sticks, mallets, instruments, and equipment.
- Transportation for all off campus performances/activities.
- Regularly purchasing new music for performances.

The music fair share should be paid as soon as possible. Please try to pay your fair share during the first weeks of the school year.

## **After School Rehearsals**

The director will at some point call for extra after school rehearsals. The director will give at least two weeks notice of rehearsals. All rehearsals will be scheduled with the master calendar of the school to make sure that rehearsal is scheduled at a convenient time, and conflicts as little as possible with other after school activities.

It is the responsibility of the student to find transportation home from after school rehearsals. After school rehearsals are mandatory when scheduled, and critical if called. All students must attend. These rehearsals will be counted as a performance grade.

## **Fundraisers**

Fundraising is a critical part of keeping any music program running. All students should participate in fundraisers not only to raise money for the program, but also to help buy instruments and music for future students to come. There will be fundraising opportunities for students throughout the year to help defray trip and program costs.

## **Trips**

Representing the Cypress Creek Middle School Music Program is an honor and a privilege to be taken very seriously. Parents and students alike will be expected to act accordingly with all School District of Pasco County Policies, Cypress Creek Middle School Policies, the policies set forth in this handbook, and any special instructions or expectations given by the director, school personnel, or chaperones. Failure to abide by the set policies at any point can and will result in a student's loss of privileges for future trips and any necessary disciplinary action. Parents of students with extensive medical conditions may be asked to accompany their student on a trip. Please inform the director with any special accommodations for students as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Trips will be taken throughout the year. They will be for the purpose of music performance, education, or possibly incentive. A student must complete the Pasco County School Field Trip Form and turn it in at least two days prior to leaving on a trip. Students must also meet the academic requirements for their classes to be able to participate in these field trips.

Additionally, parents are a huge part of any trip. Without chaperones, we are not able to make any trip possible. CCMS encourages our parents and supporters to become Pasco County approved volunteers and chaperone our trips.

## **Availability**

Please email me with questions at any time. My office phone can be reached after school M-F from 2:40-3:10. I will use myStudent messaging as my primary means of communication.

I offer academic lunch every day during 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade lunch. Students must get a pass prior to going to the cafeteria.

## Concert Attire

**All ensembles** – Concert Blacks. Black dress shirt (long sleeve), dress pants, black shoes (no tennis shoes). Girls may wear dresses which go below the knee.

**Advanced Band (football games)** – This year's CCMS band shirt (to be purchased by students through Rycor) and black shorts.

Concert blacks are **MANDATORY** at **ALL** performances. Students **not** in uniform may not be allowed to perform, and their grade will be adjusted accordingly.

\*\*\* Jeans will **not** be an acceptable alternative to dress pants. Please try to find these items before concert week! Please let Mr. Perrault know if you are having issues finding these items.

## Lockers

All students in the CCMS band program have the opportunity to use a band room instrument locker. If a student chooses to use a CCMS band locker they must understand it is for the purpose of their instrument and music only. They are not to keep food or drinks of any kind in their lockers. Due to limited space, some students may have to share lockers. The Director, CCMS and Pasco County are not responsible for any items that are lost and/or stolen from these lockers. These lockers are subject to search at any time by the director/CCMS Staff/Pasco County.

## Tardy Policy

It is the expectation of Mr. Perrault and CCMS that students are in the classroom when the tardy bell rings. Students not in the room when the bell rings will be marked tardy. Repeated tardies will result in disciplinary action.

## Classroom Rules

1. **A**lways be silent when the director is talking or when the ensemble is rehearsing.
2. **T**he **B**and/orchestra room should be left cleaner than you found it.
3. **T**he **C**lassroom and your peers should always be treated with respect. Do not touch what is not yours.
4. **D**ismissal is done by the director not the bell or other students in the hall.
5. **E**veryone should play at the instructed spot, when instructed to do so.
6. **F**ood, gum, and drinks other than water need to be left in your backpacks.
7. **A** **G**reat sound will be achieved by a well-prepared class with active participation by every student!

If any of these rules are broken, the chain of disciplinary action is as follows\*:

1. Redirection
2. Parent phone call/email
3. Parent phone call/email discussing the behavior & lunch detention
4. Written office referral

\*Severe discipline issues may result in removal from the music program.

## **Private Lessons**

Private lessons are not required but they are strongly encouraged. As music classes are rather large, covering technique with every individual student every day is not possible. Private instructors can easily assess many issues in the one-on-one setting to develop important skills and techniques. If you would like to enroll your child in private lessons, there are many outlets to choose from. Many local music stores offer lessons. Also, the University of South Florida is home to many professors and students who teach privately. Please speak to Mr. Perrault for more information.

## **Board Statement**

The Board recognizes that a course of study or certain instructional materials may contain content and/or activities that some parents find objectionable. If after careful, personal review of the program lessons and/or materials, a parent indicates to the school that either the content or the activity conflicts with his religious beliefs or value system, the school will consider a written request for his child to be excused from a particular class for specified reasons. The student, however, will not be excused from participating in the course and will be provided alternate learning activities during times of such parent requested absences.

Below are additional resources to help with questions related to Board Policy 2240: For information on the standards taught within this course, please visit <https://www.cpalms.org/public/search/Standard>. There are instructional mandates that are required by the Florida Department of Education that may be covered within this course. For more information on these, please review Florida Statute 1003.42, Required Instruction. Florida legislation and the Parent's Bill of Rights Webpage can be reviewed to assist with information and statutes on parental rights. [https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/oll\\_documents/parent-bill-of-rights](https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/oll_documents/parent-bill-of-rights)  
<https://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/rulesstatutes.stml>

## **Pasco County Schools Mission Statement**

Our vision is to create a community which works together so all Pasco County students will reach their highest potential.

## **Cyress Creek Middle School Mission Statement**

Have a Growth Mindset

Own your Education

Work as Community

Lead Responsibly



## Calendar

### **August**

Event	Date	Time	Location
Parent Meeting	8/19	6:00-7:00	CCMS Cafeteria

### **September**

Event	Date	Time	Location
Football Game (Advanced Band)	9/17	All day	CCMS
Football Game (Advanced Band)	9/24	All day	CCMS
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Night (Advanced Band 8 <sup>th</sup> graders)	9/27	5:00 Call Time 7:30 Kick off	CCHS

### **October**

Event	Date	Time	Location
Sound Check (Advanced Orchestra and Rock Band)	10/7	8:30 AM	IPAC
Advanced Orchestra & Rock Band Concert	10/7	6:30	IPAC
Football Game (Advanced Band)	10/8	All Day	CCMS
Football Game (Advanced Band)	10/16	All Day	CCMS

### **November**

Event	Date	Time	Location
All-County Band Auditions	11/12	Each student receives their own time	CCHS

### **December**

Event	Date	Time	Location
Advanced Orchestra, Advanced Band, Rock Band Concert	12/9	6:30	IPAC
Beginning Band, Beginning Orchestra Concert	12/16	6:30	Gym

## January

Event	Date	Time	Location
All-County Band Sectionals	1/21	TBD	TBD depending on instrument
All-County Band Rehearsal	1/24	All day	PACRR
All-County Band Rehearsal and Concert	1/25	9:00-2:00	PACRR

## February

Event	Date	Time	Location
Advanced Orchestra, Advanced Band, and Rock Band Concert (Pre-MPA)	2/10	6:30	IPAC

## March

Event	Date	Time	Location
Advanced Band MPA	3/6-3/8	TBD	TBD
Advanced Orchestra MPA	3/5-3/6	TBD	TBD
Solo and Ensemble (Orchestra)	3/9	Depends on student	TBD

## April

Event	Date	Time	Location
All-County Orchestra Sectionals	4/8	6:00-8:30	JW Mitchell HS
All-County Orchestra Rehearsal	4/11	All Day	IPAC
All-County Orchestra Rehearsal and Concert	4/12	9:00-2:00	IPAC
Solo and Ensemble (Band)	4/11 & 4/12	Depends on student	Powell Middle School
Solo and Ensemble (Orchestra)	4/29	Depends on student	TBD

## May

Event	Date	Time	Location
Beginning Band & Beginning Orchestra Concert	5/5	6:30	IPAC
Advanced Orchestra, Advanced Band, Rock Band Concert	5/7	6:30	IPAC

**Please sign and return the following form to Mr. Perrault**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (Circle): 6 7 8

Parent Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read this handbook and agree to abide by all of its rules and policies. I understand that failure to comply with any policies may result in disciplinary action or removal from the program, at the discretion of the director.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read this handbook and agree to allow my child to participate in the Cypress Creek Middle School Music Program. I will do my best to assist my child in their musical pursuits, and will support the Music Program to the best of my abilities. I understand that my child's failure to comply with the policies set forth in this handbook may result in disciplinary action or removal from the program, at the discretion of the director.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**