

5th/6th grade Electives "At a Glance"

Band Highlights

What does my child need to participate in Band?

- An instrument and needed accessories (ex: reeds, oils, swab)
 - **Instruments and accessories may be rented or purchased** at any local music supplies store (Music & Arts, Allegro, Milano's)
 - **Percussionists are required to rent/purchase a bell kit, drum pad and drum sticks.**
 - *For families experiencing financial need: a small number of school-owned instruments are available for a nominal fee.*
- Method book Tradition of Excellence - Book 1 (available online. Approx. \$10)
- Pencils
- **6th graders interested in band for the first time** should be advised that they will be an entire year behind the other band students. Most band students begin in 5th grade and move up to 6th with a year of experience. At home practice would be very intense for a beginning 6th grade band student. Please contact Sierra Hoaglund, band teacher, at shoaglund@pusd11.net if you are a 6th grader interested in beginning band next year.

How will my child be graded in band?

- Band is a cumulative graded class. Year-long grades are based on:
 - Meeting daily rehearsal objectives
 - Bringing required supplies (pencil, music, and instrument)
 - Required performances. (Dates will be communicated at the beginning of the year. Evening concerts never on Mondays or Fridays.)
 - Evidence of practice

Band # of days per 6-day Schedule?

- 3-4 (schedule is subject to change)

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Choir Highlights

What supplies will my child need for choir? (Do not purchase until after the school year in case our new Choir teacher would like different supplies)

- Your child will need:
 - A ½" three ringed binder (the larger ones don't fit in the folder cabinet).
 - A pencil pouch that will attach and be kept in their binder.
 - Two pencils (any kind will do)
 - A highlighter (lighter colors work best, any kind will do).
 - Some loose-leaf paper (about 10 sheets).
 - A choir t-shirt (more information will be provided in the Fall)

How many choir performances will there be?

- The school district mandates that each performance group have two concerts per calendar year. We will have two and may have more depending upon what opportunities may arise.

Are choir performances mandatory?

- Performances are mandatory and are a major project grade in their gradebook. We will be holding our performances in the evenings with the exception of the Peoria Arts Festival (6th grade only).
 - 5th Grade –Winter and a Spring concert.
 - 6th Grade –Winter and Spring concert and one performance on a Saturday for the Peoria Arts Festival. (Typically, this event is held in April – date to be announced).

How many days will my child have choir?

- Performance groups are required to have at minimum 3 days of rehearsal. Students will have between 3-5 rehearsal days per week.

How will my child be graded in choir?

- Choir students are graded on the following:
 - Meeting classroom objectives – participating in activities, discussions and singing when appropriate.
 - Being in attendance – students are not allowed to "skip" their electives. Doing so will result in a consequence (card signing, lunch detention, etc.)
 - Being prepared – practicing and studying at home when necessary, checking out music and bringing it back for rehearsal, turning in homework or communication with parents.