Beginning or Advanced Orchestra Syllabus Monica Pena, Orchestra director mpena@paparts.org Periods: 3 (Advanced) and 4 (Beginning)

**From the instructor**: Welcome to Orchestra class at PAPA during the 2020-2021 school year!

**Goals/Objectives**: In orchestra classes, students will be learning and rehearsing a variety of music repertoire, according to the skills of the ensemble. They will also be acquiring general music knowledge through incorporated units in the areas of music theory, history, and appreciation. Students will become effective team players and learn to make decisions for the good of the ensemble. In addition, they will become or remain educated musicians in performing environments such as school concerts. During periods of online instruction, assignments will be individual, but virtual performances combining all students will be considered.

**Teaching style including Bloom's Taxonomy and Webb's Depth of Knowledge**: During rehearsals and through performance, students will be proving that they can remember, understand, and apply concepts. This will also be the case with written assessments. The music appreciation component will put an emphasis on perceiving or analyzing artistic work. Every assignment will be discussed during class, or through google classroom, for students to have the opportunity to evaluate themselves. And finally, composition, embedded in the music theory branch, will allow students to nurture their creativity.

**Classroom Expectations**: Discipline and participation will have an influence on grades. Were a student to disagree with the instructor on class policies, the conversation or discussion should happen right after class between student and teacher and not during class, as to value instructional time and to not promote rebellion. My class attempts to enforce the difference between sound and noise, and requires students to use a pleasant voice volume, when speaking, and to always raise

the hand to speak. Attendance issues might result in missed assignments. It is the student's responsibility to ask what was missed during an absence. In most cases, there will be no late penalty when turning in an assignment.

**Grading**: Grades for assignments, tests, concerts, rehearsals, and discipline or participation, will be weighed equally. We normally have at least three concerts in the year (fall, winter, and spring), including a collaborative one within the music department, and further notice will be given in relation to this, but these might become virtual under the current online or hybrid school guidelines. During regular periods of instruction, a note from a guardian to the teacher will suffice to be excused from attending. An unexcused absence will result in a lower grade.

## Materials:

-Music sheet notebook (preferred but not required)

-Spiral notebook

.3- hole folder (dark blue, black, or gray, for concerts)

-Ruler

-Pencil with eraser

-Essential Element (fill in with instrument name) book 1 for Beginning Orchestra only and expected by the second week. It can be bought at a local store or online (usually cheaper this way). Purchase of this book will be aligned to a grade

**Timeline or pacing indicators**: Progress on music theory and performance branches will be relative to students' ability and effort. In the music history and appreciation disciplines, six time periods will be studied in Beginning Orchestra: Renaissance, Baroque, Classical (Fall semester), and Romantic, Impressionistic, Contemporary (Spring semester). Most of the theoretical work will be taught during the first two months, to make the online to hybrid transition easier and because performance is always best taught in person.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments. Best wishes for a successful year!