



*2019-2020*

*Plain Local School District  
GlenOak High School*

*Strings Handbook*

*Dan Nauss,  
Director*

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**Current 2019 – 2020**  
**Performance Schedule**  
*Mandatory Dates*

<u>High School</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
<i>Plain Family Fun Day</i>	<i>Saturday, September 14</i>	<i>10:00-10:30</i>
Fall Harvest “Pops” Concert D.R.	Wednesday, October 21	6:00-8:00
Fall Harvest “Pops” Concert	Thursday, October 22	7:00pm
<i>Holiday Festival of Trees</i>	<i>Monday, November 25</i>	<i>Field Trip (TBA)</i>
<i>St. Luke’s/Hartville Kitchen</i>	<i>Thursday, December 19</i>	<i>Field Trip (TBA)</i>
Holiday Strings Performance D.R.	Wednesday, December 11	6:00-8:00
Holiday Strings Performance	Thursday, December 12	7:00
<i>Celebrate Diversity Event</i>	<i>Thursday, January 16</i>	TBA
OMEA Solo and Ensemble	Saturday, January 18	TBA
EC Region State Orchestra Comp.	February 21 OR 22	TBA
<i>All School Musical</i>	<i>February 28, 29</i>	<i>TBA</i>
GOHS Strings Chicago Trip!	Thursday, March 19, 20, 21	
Classical Kaleidoscope D.R.	Wednesday, April 29	6:00-8:00
Classical Kaleidoscope Concert	Thursday, April 30	7:00

*\*Italics – Symphonic Strings Ensemble ONLY!*

\*Performances are mandatory! As class that doubles as a performing ensemble, concerts will count as a significant portion of the overall grade for the semester. Any unexcused absences from a performance will not be given a make-up assignment.

Non-Mandatory Events:

OMEA Solo and Ensemble, All School Musical *\*More information will follow!*

**Performance Dress Code:**

\*Students not presenting themselves in appropriate performance attire will not be permitted to perform.

\*\*Members of both the GOHS *Concert Orchestra* and GOHS *Symphonic String Ensemble* must purchase and maintain a concert uniform for specific performances throughout the school year. Please stand by for more information pertaining to this years required performance attire.

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reminder.

# Grading Policy

Semester grades will be based on the following areas: performances, individual play tests, written work, and attendance at evening sectionals/rehearsals. All grades and weighting is at the discretion of the director.

## 1. Performance/Dress Rehearsal/Sectional Attendance and Participation

The success of any musical ensemble is directly correlated to the dependability and commitment level of its members. In other words: "we all rely on each other."

Each performance, dress rehearsal, and sectional is mandatory, and will therefore make up **30% of the overall semester grade.**

*\*\*There are no make-up assignments for missed performances, dress rehearsals, or sectionals.\*\**

## 2. Play Tests/Written Work

Each student is expected to perform scales and various musical passages as required by the director each nine-weeks. Additionally, written classroom assignments will be used throughout the year to further solidify concepts. Students are expected to complete all required writing assignments. These performance and written assessments will serve as important indicators of student growth throughout the school year, and will therefore make up **50% of the overall semester average.**

## 3. Daily Participation

A daily "Rehearsal Skills" grade will be assessed for each student on the basis of:

1. Preparedness – Coming to class with an instrument, book/music, and a pencil
2. Staying focused during rehearsal – no excessive talking/class distractions
3. Being on time – Tuning begins promptly at 12:55 each day. Students that are not in their seats and tuning at this point will not receive full credit for their daily "Rehearsal Skills" grade.

Students that lose all of their rehearsal skills points in one class session will be recommended for disciplinary action with administration.

Daily class participation through "Rehearsal Skills" will make up **20% of the overall semester average.**

## \*Sectionals/Full Ensemble Evening Rehearsals.

Evening sectionals/full ensemble rehearsals will be scheduled throughout the year to help to create a greater sense of section/ensemble unity within the group. Attendance at these rehearsals will be mandatory, and will therefore be accompanied by a letter grade. Students may be excused from only **ONE** scheduled evening rehearsal per year **with an accompanying note from a parent or guardian**, before a grade of 0 is assigned for each missed evening rehearsal thereafter.

## **Class Room Management Plan**

When a student disrupts rehearsal or breaks a classroom rule, he or she will be dealt with in the following manner.

First Offense	Student warning
Second Offense	Contact Parent and/or Detention
Third Offense	Contact Administrator and/or Detention
Fourth Offense	Possible removal from the strings program

\* All disciplinary action will be at the director's discretion.

## **Instrument Storage**

Due to a shortage of space in the building, students will not be provided with individual storage lockers for their instruments. Rather, a space in one of the instrument storage rooms will be provided only for **students who must leave instruments during the school day**. This room will be unlocked only before and after class, and at the end of the day. Therefore, I strongly urge students to take instrument home EVERY DAY!!! Neither Mr. Nauss, nor the school district will not be held responsible for lost or damaged instruments.

## **Insurance of Personal Instruments**

We strongly urge you to check your homeowner's insurance policy to determine if your musical instruments are insured. Be sure that the instrument is covered when it is at school and in transit. If they are not covered, a rider policy can often be secured at a nominal charge. School districts are not permitted to insure personal equipment. We can only insure school owned instruments.

## **Private Lessons**

Students are strongly encouraged to take private lessons from a qualified teacher. I would be happy to assist in finding a qualified private teacher for all students!

## **Parental Involvement**

As a parent of a GlenOak High School member, your role in motivation, supporting and encouraging your student is imperative to his or her success. Support your student's efforts by attending their performances and providing a quiet area with a music stand for daily home practice. Build good practice habits by making practice an uninterrupted part of your child's study time. This will greatly improve their outlook and overall productivity. And finally, understand that playing a musical instrument requires maintenance, and that by encouraging proper care one may significantly decrease repair bills.

## Teacher Contact

If you have any questions about the strings program, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at [naussd@plainlocal.org](mailto:naussd@plainlocal.org)

Stay in the loop and get text alerts and reminders about rehearsals, performances, and assignments from Mr. Nauss!

*Concert Orchestra* students/family text the message: **@gostrings**

To: **81010**

*Symphonic Strings* students/family text the message: **@989d64**

To: **81010**

**\*\*Please detach the section below, and return it to Mr. Nauss with the appropriate signatures\*\***

"I have read and understood the policies and concert information listed above."

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_