



MAR VISTA ACADEMY

“Viking Spirit”

Course Syllabus for Beginning String Orchestra 7 -8

instructor	greg caldera	phone	(619) 628-5100 room 706
room	706	e-mail	greg.caldera@sweetwaterschools.org
support hours	Tuesday, Thursday during lunch	web address	none

Course description: No experience required. Students will learn how to read music as well as the basics and fundamentals of playing a stringed instrument. The focus is to learn how to play together in an ensemble. Students will be required to perform a few times each semester. Performances are mandatory.

Texts: Students will be provided with text books as well as study scores of the literature.

Student expectations: Students will bring their instrument, music, and a pencil to every class meeting. Students will be graded on posture as well as hand positions. Students will be required to engage in individual practice as much as is needed to keep up with the class. Students will be required to sit up straight with both feet on the floor. Students will be shown exactly how to hold their instrument and the bow. Students must keep fingernails short!

Assignment/homework policy: Each student is different, so the amount of practice necessary to succeed will also varies from student to student.

Assessments: As often as the instructor determines to be necessary, the students will have playing tests. Each and every performance is considered a major exam (this class will have very few performances each semester). Students will not miss these major tests as there is no way to make up a missed performance.

Grading policy: Percentages for playing tests, exams and quizzes; 100% - 90% = A 80% - 90% = B 70% - 79% = C 65% - 69% = C- 60% - 64% = D+ 50% - 59% = D 45% - 49% = D- below 45% = F

Support and intervention: During lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and after school, are the only hours where extra help can be had.

Course Pacing Calendar: Each class moves at a different rate. The progress of the class will determine when, and what is learned as well as what and when the students will be tested.

Citizenship Rubric

A	B	C	D	F
On task at all times	On task most of the time	On task more often than not	Off task more often than on	Continually off task
Prepared for class all of the time	Prepared for class most of the time	Prepared for class more often than not	Unprepared for class	Always unprepared for class
Always works well with everyone	Usually works well with everyone	Respectful of teacher and peers	Disrespectful at times	Disrespectful to all, most of the time
No negative behaviors	No negative behaviors	Very few disruptive behaviors	Frequent disruptive behaviors	Disrupts class on a regular basis
Actively participates in class	Almost always participates actively in class	Participates more often than not	Little or no class participation	No class participation (none)
Enhances the class by his or her presence	Sets a good example in class	Responds well when corrected	Questions authority needlessly	Defies authority
Zero unexcused tardy or absence	1 unexcused tardy or absence	2 unexcused tardies or absences	3 unexcused absences or tardies	4 unexcused tardies or absences

Student signature _____

Parent signature _____

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