

August 13, 2018

Dear Parents and Students,

We are so excited to let you know that we will be auditioning for the Odessa Wildcat Percussion Ensemble (formally known as Orff) the last week of August.

Here are some important things you will need to know about this Ensemble at Odessa:

- The Percussion Ensemble is open to all 4th and 5th grade students who wish to perform on instruments. Membership is capped at 24 students. Not everyone who auditions may be accepted.
- To participate in Percussion Ensemble, each student must audition for his/her music teachers. The audition will consist of steady beat, hand dexterity, listening skills, following directions, and behavior as well as general knowledge of various pitched and non-pitched percussion instruments.
- **Auditions will be held on Wednesday, August 28, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. and end at 9:30 a.m. in the music room. We will send students to class at its conclusion.**
- Students who are auditioning for Chorus and would like to audition for Percussion Ensemble are invited to do so. They may participate in both.
- Percussion rehearsals will take place every WEDNESDAY MORNING beginning September 5, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. unless there is no school that day or notification is relayed that rehearsal is cancelled.
- Please drop your child off in the car loop and enter through the green gate in front of the music room. Students will be dismissed from rehearsal at 9:25 a.m. If they need to get breakfast or are in Safety Patrol, they will be dismissed earlier.
- Regular attendance is very important. No more than three (3) absences from rehearsal will be allowed. **PERFORMANCES ARE MANDATORY.** Missing a performance will constitute dismissal from the Percussion Ensemble. A written note or email explaining the reason for each absence needs to be submitted to Mrs. Duquette, Ms. Guidry, or Mrs. Walukonis.
- **Winter Concert: Friday, December 7, 2018** **6:30 p.m. Odessa Cafeteria.**
Spring Concert: Thursday, April 18, 2019 **6:30 p.m. Odessa Cafeteria.**
- There is a \$20 fee to be in the Percussion Ensemble. This fee covers the cost of the Odessa blue polo shirt, as well as music and materials. The fee for returning Percussion/Chorus members is \$10 **IF** their polo shirt is still in exemplary .
- The attire for all performances will be the *blue Odessa blue collared shirt, black dress pants, black socks, and black dress shoes (no sandals)*. We want our Wildcats to look sharp when all eyes are on them!

Attached you will find an audition ticket to **bring with you** on Wednesday, August 29, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. Parents and students need to sign the ticket to signify your acceptance of the Percussion Ensemble regulations outlined above.

If you have any further questions, please Mrs. Duquette at mduquett@pasco.k12.fl.us , Ms. Guidry at sguidry@pasco.k12.fl.us or Mrs. Walukonis at mcmcdona@pasco.k12.fl.us . You may also call the school at (813) 346-3700 and leave a message for us to call you back. We look forward to making music with some wonderful Wildcats!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Duquette, Ms. Guidry,
and Mrs. Walukonis
Music Specialists