



# DW POPPY MUSIC

## 2018/19 Handbook

Welcome to the DW Poppy Music Program! It looks to be another great year for Poppy's musicians. In addition to our five concerts in November, December, March, May and June, we look forward to working with guest musicians, district and community festivals, and our department tour to the Con Brio Whistler Music Festival. Please be sure to read through this handbook completely to familiarize yourself with this year's events and activities along with course expectations other information about your child's involvement in the music program at DW Poppy

Please take note that full participation is expected for all activities as indicated on the DW Poppy Music Calendar of Events. We rehearse as an ensemble, we perform as an ensemble and travel as an ensemble. As there is a cost involved with travel, there will be a number of fundraising opportunities throughout the year to support every child's participation in every activity thanks to the work of parent volunteers who support the music program.

There are many opportunities for parents to be involved in supporting their child's music education. With concerts, festivals, tours, fundraising, promotion and so on, there are many ways you can help make this year a great experience for your child. Our first Parent Meeting is open to everyone and will take place on Thursday, September 20 from 7:30pm after the grade 8 Parent Night. If you can't make it that evening, please send us an email or give us a call.

Every student is a "key" member of their ensemble!

I accidentally poured a coffee on my laptop this summer. It seems to be fine except for one key. You would think that with all the other keys functioning properly, one key not working would hardly be noticed; but just one key that doesn't work properly seems to ruin everything. You may say to yourself "Well, I'm only one person. No one will notice if I don't do my best. If I don't practice, does it really matter? If I miss a rehearsal or don't participate in a performance, who would care?" But it does make a difference, because a great musical ensemble needs every member participating to the best of their ability all the time.

So, the next time you think you are not important and don't need to be with the ensemble, remember your computer and know that you are key to our success!



## DW Poppy Music Calendar of Events

Every effort is made to ensure the calendar is accurate but changes may occur. You will be notified as soon as possible of any adjustments, but please note that listed events are all course requirements as indicated. Student participation in these events is mandatory and part of students' mark for the course.

### September

6	CHOIR MEETING (Senior Concert Choir, Red Hawk Voices and all interested students)	11:35am
10	SENIOR JAZZ ENSEMBLE (SJE) First Rehearsal	6:45am
10	SENIOR CONCERT BAND (SCB) First Rehearsal	11:35am
11	JUNIOR JAZZ ENSEMBLE (JJE) First Rehearsal	6:45am
20	Music Parents' Meeting -All parents are welcome and invited!	7:30pm

### October

22	District Senior Choir Festival @ Mountain Secondary (SCC)	TBA
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### November

6	Senior Fall Showcase Concert (CB10, SCB, SJE, SCC, Vox)	6:30pm call
7	Junior Fall Showcase Concert (CB8, CB9, RHV, JJE)	6:30pm call
8	Remembrance Day Assemblies (SCB, SCC)	In-School
15	District Senior Concert Band Festival @ Walnut Grove Secondary (SCB)	6:30pm call

### December

5	ESPRESSIVO: Holiday Spectacular (ALL ENSEMBLES) Setup after school	6:00pm call
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### January

23	District Senior Jazz Ensemble Festival @ Langley Fundamental Secondary (SJE)	6:30pm call
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### February

13-14	Vancouver Kiwanis Jazz Festival in Richmond (SJE, JJE)	TBA
15	Load-In for Musical Theatre	8:30am call
25 ->	Musical Theatre Run	Multiple Times

### March

-> 2	Musical Theatre Run	Multiple Times
6	Elementary Zone Concert (SCB & Volunteer Setup Crew) Setup after school	6:30pm call
12	Sound of Spring Concert (CB8, CB9, CB10, SCB, RHV, SCC) Setup after school	6:30pm call

### April

15	Elementary Recruiting Tour (SCB, SJE, SCC, Vox)	In-School
30 ->	Tentative - Vancouver Kiwanis Concert Band Festival (CB8, CB9, CB10, SCB)	TBA

### May

-> 2	Tentative - Vancouver Kiwanis Concert Band Festival (CB8, CB9, CB10, SCB)	TBA
2-5	Department Tour to the Con Brio Whistler Music Festival (All ensembles)	TBA
22	Elementary Honour Band Tour	TBA
23	Poppy Jazz Café (SJE, JJE, Vox, Combos) Setup after school @ Fort Langley Community Hall	6:30pm call
TBA	Elementary Zone Concert (Volunteer Setup Crew to help EHB)	6:30pm call

### June

3	Night of Choirs (RHV, SCC, Vox) Setup after school @ Fort Langley Community Hall	6:30pm call
12	Night of Bands (CB8, CB9, CB10, SCB) Setup after school	6:30pm call

## Evaluation and Grading Policies

Students all approach the study of music from their own previous experience so benchmarks for success include individual growth and contribution to the ensemble. All music courses run in a similar format with difficulty and expectations increasing from grade 8 to 12. The recently updated *Arts Education - Music* curriculum outlines the curricular competencies of Exploring and Creating, Reasoning and Reflecting, Communicating and Documenting, and Connecting and Expanding, experienced and expressed through both non-performing and performing actions and activities.

Non-Performing (Assessed via In-Class Observations & Written Assignments)

**Musician's Mindset:** The Musician's Mindset is a way of describing the attitude and approaches needed to be successful in music - and beyond! Students with a Musician's Mindset demonstrate an understanding that growth as a musician is dependent on perseverance, resilience and reflection and that music is an individual and collective expression founded on the history, culture, community and value system in which that expression exists. They know the role of performers and audiences in a variety of contexts and demonstrate an understanding of the personal and social responsibility associated with creating, performing and responding to music.

**Music Literacy:** Music Literacy includes the written and aural traditions within music along with an understanding of music's roles in the world. Students are expected to know elements, principles, techniques, vocabulary and symbols related to music. Additionally, students are expected to develop an understanding of the influence of time and place on the emergence of musical forms and contributions of innovative artists from a variety of genres, contexts, time periods, and cultures.

Performing (In-Class Observations, Playing Checks, Concert Performances)

**Technique:** A technically accurate performance comes from practicing the Musician's Mindset and understanding that music is a process that relies on engaged connection between the senses. This understanding will support the student's efforts to improve their technical abilities as they relate to their specific instrument.

**Artistry:** When combining the Musician's Mindset, Musical Literacy and Technique, students can create an artistic performance that connects with other musicians and move audiences. In these moments, music offers unique ways of exploring one's identity and sense of belonging and in order to create a truly moving performance, students must understand that ideas and beliefs winning a work of art have the power to effect change.

Students share their learning through...

**Concerts & Other Performances:** All DW Poppy's music classes are performance-based so participation in all performances outlined in the attached DW Poppy Music Calendar of Events is a course expectation. If you are absent from a performance, which is music's version of a final exam, the previous months of work by the ensemble is suddenly incomplete, which can have a tremendous impact on your classmates.

Parents and students are asked to communicate any schedule conflicts as soon as possible. We will work with you to find a solution in everyone's best interest. In case of emergency situations, please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible after the event. Students who miss performances will be asked to individually perform the concert repertoire to demonstrate their proficiency. Since credit is given based upon students' performance proficiency at both rehearsals and calendar events, unexcused absences will also directly affect a student's grade for the term.

There are some dates that are still to be announced and it is possible (although rare) that we may need to make changes to the concert calendar through the year. These adjustments will be communicated as early as possible and will be as understanding as possible of any conflicts that arise out of changes to the calendar.

Students prepare for performances in...

**Rehearsals:** It is expected that students attend all rehearsal, including those in the extended day schedule, as they would any other classes. Rehearsal is when we students learn how their parts interact with others. If you attend school for your other classes, you can participate in music in some way. Always bring your music and instrument and do as much as you can. If you are late or absent, we require a note, e-mail or phone-in from a parent or teacher or they will be considered unexcused and subject to the school's attendance policies.

Students prepare for rehearsals through...

**Regular Personal Practice:** Regular personal practice is not just essential to learning how to perform one's parts for their ensemble, it is a path towards self-discipline and a skill that has hugely positive ramifications for personal fulfillment and lifetime success well beyond music. Students have many time commitments outside of school and as such, practicing is about working on performance goals on a regular basis in small amounts of time. 15-30 minutes per day may be enough for many students. During the first week of school, students will be asked to submit a practice plan for the year and a handout entitled *How To Practice*. Using these resources will help ensure your success!

## Concert Uniform For All Performances

Students are expected to wear the complete uniform for all performances. If there are financial reasons that families are unable to provide the following items, please communicate by the end of September so we can provide the necessary items. *Students need their uniforms complete by October 6 as we will have yearbook photos taken of the ensembles shortly after Thanksgiving.*

### **Grade 8 & 9 Junior Ensembles (CB08, CB09, RHV, JJE)**

- Long sleeved black dress shirt
- Black dress pants
- Black socks & dress shoes

### **Grade 10, 11 & 12 Senior Ensembles (CB10, SCB, SCC, SJE, VOX)**

- Long sleeved black dress shirt
- Black dress pants
- Black socks & dress shoes
- Red Poppy Music Tie or Scarf purchased for \$25 from Poppy
- Jazz Ensemble: Vest rented from Poppy for \$10 to cover cleaning costs

## Concert Setup & Cleanup

At DW Poppy, part of connecting with the larger musical community is demonstrated at concerts through setup and cleanup. Students are expected to setup for two school performance each year. Signup will take place during the first week of school and the setup crew list will be posted in the music hall. Concert setup takes about 30-60 minutes (except for ESPRESSIVO on December 5) and students need to sign-out at the end of the setup process.

After performances, every participating student is asked to stay and clean up so that rather than a few people staying very late, everyone is able to head home at a reasonable time. When cleanup is done, a sign-out list will be posted. If there are extenuating circumstances, please communicate those in writing prior to the day of the concert as we understand that there are occasionally challenges. Students who need to leave early will be asked to help out the following day filing music or another small project as every student helps contribute to the success of the program.

## Music Tours

Music tours not only give the students an opportunity to share their music with audiences who otherwise would not hear them, but also to experience some of the travel is part of most every professional musician's life. Tours are treated as a working-holiday, full of great experiences centred around musical opportunities to perform, listen and learn in a fun environment. Music Tours are not mandatory, but we strongly encourage full participation and thanks to supportive parents, we offer a number of fundraising opportunities throughout the year to help students afford travel costs. Watch for specific information in the next few weeks.

## Equipment and Materials

As a member of an instrumental ensemble in the DW Poppy Music Program, it is the responsibility of the student to supply a playable instrument. Students are strongly encouraged to purchase or rent their instrument from one of the local retailers as the instruments will be of better quality and rent will generally apply partially or fully towards the purchase price. The school has a limited collection of more obscure school instruments available to rent for the year at a cost of \$10 per month (\$100 for the year). Instruments may be provided to families in financial need free of charge - please contact us for further details.

Please note that the teachers and the school cannot take responsibility for students instruments. Students need to ensure their instruments are clearly labeled with their name and phone number and that they are stored in the instrument storage room or their locker when they are at school. Check with your home insurance policy holder as your house insurance may cover the instrument.

Students will need to purchase the following through the school

Band 8 & 9 Students	Sound Innovations II	\$10
Band Students	Band Folders (Personalized)	\$25
Choral Students	Optional Choir Folder (Personalized)	TBA

The department will provide Band and Choir Students with music required for performance *to be returned at the end of the course*. A replacement fee per lost/damaged part may be assessed for lost or damaged music (\$5.00 for band parts, \$2.50 for Choir parts). Band 10-12 Students will also be provided with their Method Book *to be returned at the end of the course*. A \$10.00 replacement fee for loss or damage may be assessed for lost or damaged method books.

All Instrumental Students will need to supply:

- Instrument in good condition with your name and contact information on the case
- Necessary accessories (Reeds, Valve Oil, Spare Strings etc.)

Percussionists need to supply the following:

- Bell Kit and Snare Drum for home practice
- Stick Bag with the following contents:
  - 5A Drumsticks - 2 pair
  - Medium Yarn Mallets - 1 pair
  - Hard Plastic Bell Mallets - 1 pair
  - Wire Brushes - 1 Pair for Jazz Band members only

## 2018/19 Course Descriptions

**Concert Band 8 (CB08) - Block B2:** Concert Band 8 is for instrumental musicians at the grade 8 level. Experienced musicians will continue their study of the elements of music started in elementary band and beginners are welcome. Repertoire will include a wide variety of music and students can expect to perform a number of times throughout the year and may have the opportunity to travel with the ensemble.

**Concert Band 9 (CB09) - Block C1:** Concert Band 9 is for instrumental musicians at the grade 9 level. Students will continue their study of the elements of music. Repertoire will include a wide variety of music and students can expect to perform a number of times throughout the year and may have the opportunity to travel with the ensemble.

**Concert Band 10 (CB10) - Block B1:** Concert Band 10 is for more experienced instrumental musicians at the grade 10 level. Students will continue their study of the elements of music. Repertoire will include a wide variety of music and students can expect to perform a number of times throughout the year and may have the opportunity to travel with the ensemble.

**Senior Concert Band 11/12 (SCB) - Extended Day Schedule:** Senior Concert Band is for more experienced instrumental musicians at the grade 11/12 level. Students will continue their study of the elements of music. Repertoire will include a wide variety of music and students can expect to perform a number of times throughout the year and may have the opportunity to travel with the ensemble.

**Junior Jazz Ensemble 8/9 (JJE) - Extended Day Schedule:** Junior Jazz Ensemble is offered as an additional course to junior instrumentalists in the music program. This ensemble performs a variety of jazz styles including swing, latin, funk and fusion. Junior Jazz Ensemble also introduces students to the concepts of jazz improvisation. Rehearsals will run during the extended day schedule. As Junior Jazz Ensemble is a performance-driven course where the focus is different from other music classes, students are required to be a member of Concert Band 8 or 9.

**Senior Jazz Ensemble 10-12 (SJE) - Extended Day Schedule:** Senior Jazz Ensemble 10-12 is offered as an additional course to senior instrumentalists in the music program. This ensemble performs a variety of jazz styles including swing, latin, funk and fusion including professional level works from the libraries of Duke Ellington, Stan Kenton and Count Basie. Students will also continue to develop their jazz improvisation skills. Rehearsals will run during the extended day schedule. As Senior Jazz Ensemble is a performance-driven course where the focus is different from other music classes, students are required to be a member of Concert Band 10 or Senior Concert Band 11/12.

**Junior Choir 8, 9 - Redhawk Voices (RHV) - Extended Day Schedule:** The Junior Choir (Redhawk Voices) is a fun ensemble that sings a wide variety of repertoire and styles. Anyone can join and previous singing experience is not required. Those aspiring to join Senior Concert Choir are encouraged to have at least one year of experience in Redhawk Voices.

**Senior Concert Choir 10-12 (SCC) - Extended Day Schedule:** Senior Concert Choir is for more experienced vocalists at the grade 10/11/12 level. Students will continue their study of the elements of music with a focus on music literacy, tone production and vocal health. Repertoire will include a wide variety of music and students can expect to perform a number of times throughout the year and may have the opportunity to travel with the ensemble.

**Vocal Jazz 10-12 - Poppy Vox (VOX) - Extended Day Schedule:** Vocal Jazz 10-12 (Poppy Vox) is offered as an additional course to senior vocalists in the music program. This ensemble performs a variety of jazz styles and will continue to develop members' improvisation skills. Students can expect to perform a number of times throughout the year and may have the opportunity to travel with the ensemble. Rehearsals will run during the extended day schedule. As Vocal Jazz 10-12 is a performance-driven course where the focus is different from other music classes, students are required to be a member of Senior Concert Choir.



## Music Awards

Students in the music program work very hard to succeed so we are particularly pleased to recognize the work of our most outstanding students at our final concerts in the following categories:

**Concert Band 8-12:** The Concert Band Awards are presented at each grade level to a student who demonstrates high academic achievement, strong musicianship, professionalism and leadership within Band 8, Band 9, Band 10 or Senior Concert Band.

**Concert Choir 8-12:** The Concert Choir Awards are presented at each grade level to a student who demonstrates high academic achievement, strong musicianship, professionalism and leadership within Redhawk Voices or Senior Concert Choir.

**Jazz Ensemble 8-12:** The Jazz Ensemble Awards are presented at each grade level to a student who demonstrates high academic achievement, strong musicianship, professionalism and leadership within Junior and Senior Jazz Ensembles.

**Vocal Jazz 10-12:** The Vocal Jazz Awards are presented at each grade level to a student who demonstrates high academic achievement, strong musicianship, professionalism and leadership within Poppy Vox

**Pit Orchestra:** The Pit Orchestra Award is presented to a student or students who demonstrates high academic achievement, strong musicianship, professionalism and leadership within Pit Orchestra for the Musical Theatre Program.

**Most Improved Musician:** This award is presented to the student or students who demonstrate the most growth in one or more area including academic achievement, musicianship, professionalism and leadership.

**Certificates of Special Recognition:** These awards recognize unique contributions or achievements of Poppy Music students and are awarded at the directors' discretion.

**Outstanding Musician 8-12:** The Outstanding Musician Awards are presented at each grade level to a student who demonstrates high academic achievement, strong musicianship, professionalism and leadership in 2 or more ensembles.

## What if...?

**I missed the concert because we had another family commitment:** We will not share information with others, but we will need more information than this.

**I missed the concert because I couldn't get a ride:** With months of notice for concerts, this is not considered an excused absence. Please ensure you plan ahead: if there is a possibility your ride might fall through, please be sure you have a backup plan.

**I miss the concert because I am sick:** If you can attend school that day, you are able to attend the performance that evening. If there are concerns about your impact on the performance, please discuss it with the director prior to the performance. If you're off sick and are not able to attend at all, please let us know so we can minimize the impact of your absence on the rest of the students.

**There has been a hospitalization or death in my family:** Our condolences - this is certainly a priority over a concert. Please communicate at your earliest convenience so that we can minimize the impact of your absence on the rest of the students.

**I forgot my instrument:** Tell us before rehearsal begins. If we can loan you a school instrument for the day, we will. We know this may happen once or twice during the year, but more is a concern.

**I forgot my music:** Tell us before rehearsal begins. We will ask you to share with another student on the same part or loan you music for the class. We know this may happen once or twice during the year, but more is a concern.

**I lost my music:** Please check the folder rack again and then tell us so we can help find it. If it is really gone, we will sort out what has to happen to replace it. No music (or book) means you have no way to practice to please deal with this as soon as possible.

**I don't know...:** Talk to us right away. Our job is to help you get that resolved, but we can't do anything to help if you pretend everything is OK.

**I'm late for class:** If you're late of an extended-day rehearsal, please email your teacher so they can make any adjustments to the lesson they may need. If a teacher held you back, please ask for a note or to email your teacher. Any other dates fall under the school's attendance policy.

**I have something to hand in:** Put it in "the box" on the band room office door.

**I know won't be able to complete my assignment on time:** Talk to your teacher prior to the due date to ask for an extension. If your request is reasonable, we're more than understanding

**I didn't complete my assignment on time:** Tell your teacher on the due date (or when you get back to class if you've been absent) and we look at how to resolve the issue as fairly as possible.

Student Information & Understanding of Expectations  
Please return this page no later than Friday, September 14, 2018

Please have both student and parent/guardian information completed below. We need this information so that we can communicate with you throughout the year.

Your signatures also indicate that:

- We have read through the DW POPPY MUSIC 2018/19 Handbook
- We are aware of the uniform requirements and other materials required for participation in their ensemble(s)
- We are aware of, and will fully participate in, the performances listed in the DW POPPY MUSIC Calendar of Events, and will communicate and conflicts immediately so they can be resolved prior to any performance if at all possible

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian e-mail:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian phone: