



Auxier Elementary School

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Dear Auxier 1st Grade Students and Parents:

Welcome back, everyone! I'm excited to begin teaching here at Auxier Elementary for the first time this year! I am a traveling music teacher and teach at Patterson and Navarrete Elementary Schools in addition to Auxier Elementary. At Auxier, I teach all 1st grade students. Some information about me: This is my 21st year teaching music after graduating from Indiana University in 1996. I've taught band, choir, and general music in all grades (K-12) in Washington State, Indiana, and here in Arizona. This will be my 14th year in Chandler.

Things we will begin learning about in 1st Grade General Music this year: classroom procedures, reading music (rhythm, pitch, harmony, and expression), hearing music and writing it down, music history, composers, creating music, composing music, improvising, styles of music, musical time periods, musical forms, timbre, texture, instruments, and feelings or emotions associated with music. Of course, we incorporate many academic skills (reading, writing, mathematics, geography, history, science, etc.) in class as well as character issues (attentive listening, appreciations, respect, etc.). Whew...it's a lot to do in four classes every 6 days!

Grading Policy: Behavior and Participation Grade

This grade is based on a self-evaluation done by the students. At the end of each class, your child is asked to display the level that represents their behavior that day. I will record the number and assign a grade. The levels are listed on the next page. Numbers are averaged and grades will be recorded at the end of each semester. Grades are on the following scale:

E (Excellent): 3.0 – 4.0

S (Satisfactory): 2.0 – 2.9

N (Needs Improvement): 1.0 – 2.0

Grading Policy: Content / Knowledge Grades

This grade is based on several different types of assessments (performance, written, observed, participation) given throughout the year. Each assessment will be graded using a **4-point rubric or scale**. The grades are averaged and grades will be recorded at the end of each semester. Grades are given on the following scale:

M - Meets Standard (3.0 - 4.0)	P - Progressing (1.5 - 2.9)	AC - Area of Concern (0.0 - 1.4)
The student mastered most of the knowledge and skill areas assessed during the semester.	The students mastered some of the knowledge and skill areas assessed during the semester and/or shows evidence of developing understanding or skill(s).	The student was unable to master the knowledge and a skill area assessed during the semester and/or shows little evidence of developing understanding or skill(s).

For more information, games, links, clips and pictures visit **Mr. Landon's Music Class Web Site**. Here is the address:

<http://landonland.net>

I hope this letter gives you a strong understanding of what your child will be doing in music class this year and how he/she will be graded. Please feel free to contact me any time by email or phone anytime. Have a wonderful school year! ☺

Musically Yours,

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Behavior Grade Information:

Expectations:

BE NICE to each other
BE NICE to the classroom
BE NICE to the teacher

Level 4: Being NICE ALL the time

- I am dependable, responsible, and have self-discipline
- I participate and stay on task without being told.
- I have a positive attitude and I am able to cooperate with others.
- I always strive to do my personal best.
- I support and encourage my classmates



Level 3: Being NICE MOST of the time

- I cooperate and follow directions most of the time.
- Sometimes the teacher has to remind me to improve my attitude and behavior.
- I am working on showing self-control by being involved in the subject matter, even though it may not be my favorite.
- I am willing to try new things.



Level 2: Being NICE SOME of the time

- I boss others, bully others, bother others, and must be bossed to behave.
- I do not show much effort or improvement.
- I have trouble controlling my attitude and behavior.
- Sometimes I do not participate in the day's activities.



Level 1: Not being NICE / Unacceptable

- I am rude during class instruction and keep others from learning.
- I am noisy and disrupt instruction most of the time.
- I often talk during instruction and am frequently off task.
- I am unsafe and out of control.
- I argue with the teacher.
- I use put-downs.
- I do not participate in activities.
- I do not treat the room, materials, instruments, or equipment properly.
- My behavior keeps me from participating in class.

