Rigby High School

***Beginning Guitar***

**Period 4**

Teacher: Mr. Sandford School Phone: 745-7704 Email: jsandford@sd251.org

Course Objective:

To help students be competent musicians while gaining an understanding of guitar technique and performance. This requires that students understand and apply basic fundamentals of music theory and aural skills in class activities and performance, compose, and demonstrate functional proficiency in playing the guitar.

Grading

Letter grades will be given according to the following criteria:

 A 94-100 C+ 77-79.9 Worksheets: 10%

 A- 90-93.9 C 73-76.9 Final Projects: 10%

 B+ 87-89.9 C- 70-72.9 Bell work & Journal: 10%

 B 83-86.9 D+ 67-69.9 Tests: 40%

 B- 80-82.9 D 63-66.9 Daily Participation: 30%

Worksheets:

* A worksheet or in-class quiz will be given for each unit covered in class and will be turned in for credit.

Project:

* The students will have a specific, culminating assignment to turn in at the end of the trimester in which they will have the opportunity to do research on a specific composition/arrangement, details on the structure, background of the composer, musical style/period and idioms used, as well as its purpose and effect, which will be shared at the end of the trimester. Details will be given out at a later date following the mid-term in class.

Playing Tests:

* Throughout the trimester students will be expected to perform technical skills as they are acquired through the course, in addition to traditional written assessments. This will involve performing selections on the guitar and completing theory work. For the first half of the trimester, students who wish to opt out of performing in class may play for the instructor at another scheduled time.

Daily Participation:

* Five points are awarded on a daily basis for attendance, punctuality, citizenship, and *participation* in class activities. Points for *excused* absences and illnesses may be made up by making individual arrangements with Mr. Sandford.

Textbook

* Each student is responsible to purchase or procure a copy of the *Hal Leonard Guitar Method: Book 1* for use in class. Books are included in the $10.00 fee for class, and students will receive them in the first week.

Supplies

* Students are responsible to bring their own paper and pencils. Since we will be doing theory as part of the course, it is recommended that pencils with erasers are used. Sloppy work, such as pen scribbles, will not be graded if illegible. Additionally, each student will need to bring their own acoustic guitar to class as rentals are not available from the school. Students may rent one from a local music store or borrow one from a friend or family member.

Late Work

* “Make-up lessons and assignments are allowed for all *excused* absences. Students are granted the number of days missed plus one (1) day to turn in make-up work” for full credit. (Rigby High School 2012-2013 Student Handbook)
* Though late work will be accepted, 20% of the total points possible will be deducted per day after the deadline.

Eligibility & Conduct

* Common rules are set in class as a group. *Only water* is allowed in the band room, and all other beverages and food are prohibited (**NO GUM or SODA**). Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle.

Conflict Resolution

* Generous warnings will be given. However, failure to abide by the rules will result in loss of participation points. Should disruptive patterns of behavior continue (which none of you will do, I’m sure), the student will have a conference with Mr. Sandford outside of class. Further disruptions will prompt a conference with the student, parent(s), administration and Mr. Sandford to discuss the appropriate course of action.
* I’m here to help in any way that I can. Should you wish to discuss anything, contact me by phone at the school or by e-mail.

Parent Contact & E-mail

In order to communicate with parents, we will send out intermittent e-mail messages to keep you up to date with our activities. If you are not receiving these messages, and would like to, please update your e-mail address in PowerSchool. We will only send messages to those we have in the PowerSchool system.

*Please sign the accompanying slip and return it to Mr. Sandford by: \_\_\_\_* / ­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

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I have read and understood the *Beginning Guitar* class syllabus and understand the classroom guidelines, grading policies, and what is expected of me as a student.

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Student Signature Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date