 *Shepherd Hill Regional High School*

 *Visual and Performing Arts Department 2014-2015*

**Course: Guitar Ensemble Level: None**

**Teacher: Ms. Galli Credit: .5**

**Room: Band Room**

**Course Description:**

Guitar Ensemble is designed to allow students who play guitar to develop their skills, learn fundamental music theory, and practice and perform in an ensemble setting. Each class will include specific lesson topics as well as time for ensemble work. Student will be expected to find and share appropriate songs with the class and will take turn leading the ensemble sessions. Theory topics will include:

* Scales
* Chord progression
* Note and rhythm reading
* Aural skills training
* Improvisation

**Student Learning Expectations:**

7 - The Shepherd Hill student demonstrates cultural literacy – understanding diverse cultures and recognizing global perspectives

**Texts/Materials:**

Belwin’s Guitar Theory 1, 2 and 3 (Feldstein and Stang)

Supplemental materials and exercises

**Assessment/Grading Policy:**

Guitar class will involve both solo and ensemble playing and evaluation. Students will be graded according to the following criteria:

* Tests / Quizzes
* Class Participation (Please note – inattentiveness or disruptive behavior will contribute negatively to this portion of the student’s grade)
* Performance / Evaluation

**Classroom Procedures/Requirements:**

* No playing when the teacher is talking / demonstrating or students are performing
* Students must participate in all class activities
* Practice outside of class is required. Students may practice in the music area during the day with an appropriate pass from a music department staff member.

# Guitars

* Students may use their own, or a school owned instrument. Classical, acoustic or electric guitars are acceptable, however amplifiers will not be used in class.
* Student guitars must be clearly identified and in a case
* Guitars should be brought to the music department upon arrival in the morning and secured in the designated storage area. Storage area will also be open at the end of the day.
* Music staff will secure the storage area – however, please understand that all guitar class members will have access to that area for practice. Shepherd Hill cannot be responsible for loss of or damage to your guitar. If the instrument is valuable, please make sure loss or damage is covered by your parent’s homeowner’s insurance.
* Music staff will assist with minor repairs and maintenance of your guitar when possible. More extensive repairs can be arranged for you. Cost of all materials and outside repair is the student’s responsibility.

**Behavioral Expectations:** Students involved in Guitar Ensemble should:

Be Respectful and Cooperative:

* Respect the abilities of your peers
* Do not interrupt class by talking or otherwise distracting others
* Be prompt – be ready to begin class when the bell rings – have guitar, book and stand ready

Be Responsible and Productive:

* Give your best effort at all times
* Be attentive to the proper technique - posture, hand position, music theory
* Participate fully in all class activities
* Be open to new techniques and methods (including traditional notation and rhythm reading)

Follow School Rules and Teachers’ Expectations:

* Remain focused on the teacher throughout class
* Follow directions – stop playing when teacher is explaining something
* Be careful with school equipment and use only your assigned guitar

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

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

**\*Signature indicates receipt of course syllabus.**

If you will be bringing your own guitar to class, complete the following:

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**Guitar Make / Model Serial Number**

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**Brief Description of Guitar/Case**

To publicize music dept. events, your child’s picture may be published in the newspaper or on the web site for public viewing. Your signature below will give the music dept permission to use your child’s photograph for publicity in the 2014-2015 school year.

**Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date**: ­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Website: shepherdhillchorus.com**