**Boca Ciega High Guitar I Syllabus 2020-2021**

 Mr. Drucker ▪ DruckerA@pcsb.org ▪ Room 3-008 ▪ Planning Periods: 7th & 8th

The purpose of Guitar I at Boca Ciega High School is to introduce students to a variety of musical concepts through guitar playing. Students will learn to play the guitar through performance and written assignments. At the end of the year, students will be able to play in a number of styles and to understand a number of important musical ideas.

Student Expectations and Responsibilities

 Respect covers nearly every facet of our behavior; in Boca Ciega High Guitar, at school in general, and in our daily personal lives.

 Therefore, students are expected to:

 Arrive on time and prepared with all materials.

 Treat all materials kindly.

 Treat all students, teachers, and volunteers kindly.

 Match your behavior to the environment, not to your mood or feelings.

 If you have a personal situation that will affect your performance in class,

 talk to Mr. Drucker, and he will make every accommodation possible.

 **Remember that *you alone* are responsible for your actions.**

 Give your all, do your best, and strive for excellence.

Teacher Expectations and Responsibilities

 Respect is also first on the list of expectations from the teacher.

 I will be on time and prepared with all materials.

 I will announce and record all assignments and their due dates.

 I will treat you, your parents, and all others kindly and fairly.

 I will match my behavior to the environment, not to my mood or feelings.

 ***I alone* am responsible for my actions.**

I will give my all, do my best, and strive for excellence as your teacher.

Discipline

Students will be given 15-minutes of detention for each violation of class rules. If a student reaches 60 minutes of detention (4 infractions) and chooses to violate class policies again, a referral will be written for defiance, at which point students will be subject to further discipline from their administrator. Students will have one week to serve detentions from the assigned date, or they will receive a referral for failure to serve detention.

Guitar Rental Fee

There is a guitar rental fee of $35 for one semester, or $60 for the full school year. This helps to defray the cost of guitar maintenance and materials, as well as to fund new equipment. The District will waive fees for persons unable to afford them in accordance with its policy. Checks should be made out to Boca Ciega High School. Guitars will be available for check-out once the contract has been signed and the fee has been paid.

Assessment

In order to achieve continuous improvement, it is vital that progress is tangibly measured. There will be daily assessments of musical progress as well as periodic written assignments by which students can demonstrate personal understanding of concepts and facts.

 Student grades will NOT be based solely upon participation, attendance, and behavior, although chronic tardiness, absence, and misbehavior will result in missed teaching time, less preparedness, and therefore, a lower grade.

Missed Assignments

When assessments are missed due to excused absences, students must make an appointment to be assessed during lunch within one week of the missed day.

Assignments & Grading Schedule

 Assessments

Assessments will be based on large-group topics drawn from the textbook, as well as on pieces and exercises being learned from the textbook and other materials. Point values will be determined based on the difficulty, length, and importance of the assigned task. Various written assignments may be assigned in-class or for homework, as well.

Major Projects

There will be three major written projects throughout the year:

The first will be a two-page research project on the guitarist they are individually assigned.

Due by **Thursday, October 15th.**

Next will be a concert review, for which the student must attend a musical performance (if live options are not available due to the Covid-19 situation, “Live” online concerts may be used, however, the group/performance must be approved by Mr. Drucker beforehand). Students will describe their experience in a one-page essay.

Due by **Monday, March 8th.**

The third will be the “Your Music” project, for which each student will select a song or piece that they enjoy, and both write a two-page paper and present information about the music and the artist to the class.

Due by **Monday, May 10th.**

More information about each project will be distributed later in the year.

 Recitals and Performances

Students will be required to perform during and outside of class throughout the year.

Students are also required to attend two mandatory performances: The **BCHS Performing Arts Winter Concert** (date and time TBD, December prior to winter break), and the **BCHS Performing Arts Spring Concert** (date and time TBD, end of May). Exact dates for the concerts will be released as they become available. Other performance opportunities will be announced as information becomes available.

Exam Policies

Exams will be given at the conclusion of each semester. Each exam will consist of a performance element and a written element. The exemption policy will follow school guidelines, with the exception that the performance element of each exam is not eligible for exemption by any student, and will also be included on the nine-week grade.

Not all assignments may be assessed every day, and Mr. Drucker reserves the right to change assignments, point values, or the schedule at any time. Students, please refer to the calendar on the white board in the classroom. Students may construct alternative assignments at Mr. Drucker’s discretion and approval.

Communication

All rehearsals, homework assignments, practice expectations, and performances will be communicated in class and through Assignments on Canvas.

Guitar Use Policy

All students in guitar classes will be assigned a Boca Ciega High School owned guitar for use in class and at home, unless they choose to use their own classical acoustic guitar. Boca Ciega High School guitars and cases are tagged with a school inventory number that will match the contract signed. Guitars must be returned in the condition in which they were checked out. In the result of theft, damage, or other incident involving a Boca Ciega guitar, the student may be disciplined monetarily or in another fashion based on the circumstances and in consultation with Ms. Simone (BCHS Bookkeeper). Students must have their guitars present at every class unless otherwise instructed by Mr. Drucker.

**Basically**, *treat Boca Ciega Guitars with respect.* Many other students use these guitars and the less maintenance cost that is associated with the guitars, the more money goes toward music, instruments, and other causes.