

Dear Parent/Guardian:

In an effort to increase the musicality of the band and orchestra, I have implemented a requirement for the learning of music scales. It is as follows:

**7<sup>th</sup> grade students and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students playing an instrument for the 1<sup>st</sup> time**

Students will need to pass off all 12 major scales from memory, or read, by the end of the year. A one-octave chromatic scale also needs to be passed off from memory. You will need to pass off 4 scales (of their choice) each quarter, and then be prepared to pass off any of the 12 during the final quarter of the school year. You may pass off more than 4 any given quarter, but the 12 must be done by the end of the school year.

**8<sup>th</sup> grade students –**

Students will need to pass off all 12 minor scales (natural and harmonic), from memory, or read, by the end of the year. A two-octave chromatic scale also needs to be passed off from memory. You will need to pass off 4 scales (of their choice) each quarter, and then be prepared to pass off any of the 12 during the final quarter of the school year. You may pass off more than 4 any given quarter, but the 12 must be done at the end of the school year.

Students may pass off scales to me before or after school. They may pass off one at a time, and do not need to play all four at one time. I will keep track of their progress. There will be 100 points, each quarter, for passing off the scales (25 points for each scale). There will be no extra credit for the current quarter, for passing off more than four, but will count toward the next quarter. Likewise, “making up” a missed scale the following quarter will not change the previous quarters’ grade, nor be considered extra credit. It is still required, regardless, that all scales are passed off before testing of all 12 scales 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

Mr. Bishop