

Dear Parent / Guardian:

I want to send out this letter to give you information regarding my new practice cards. I hope that by this point, you have already seen the new practice card format at least one time. For your information, you can see a copy of it on the back of this letter.

I have spent time going over this practice card in class, and have explained to the students how to use it. They are expected to fill out the information themselves, as well as present it to you for your signature. Please notice that if it does not have your signature, I will not accept it until it has the appropriate signature.

The format of this practice card allows me to monitor how many days a week your student is practicing, as well as how much time they spend. It also allows your student to analyze their own playing, letting me know what they are practicing, and letting them set weekly practice/instrument goals.

Each practice card is worth 80 points. 20 points for days practiced (5 points per day), 10 points for self evaluation, 40 points for 2 hours of practice each week, and 10 points for parent/guardian signature. There is the possibility of 30 extra credit points from days practiced and extra time practiced. Students have been asked to practice a minimum of four days per week, and a minimum of two hours per week.

The practice cards will be due on **Tuesdays**. Any student not turning in their practice card on Tuesday (unless they are absent), we be given a playing test that same day. The playing test will be worth up to 40 points (half the points of the practice card). This playing test allows me the opportunity to hear the progress of students, as well as give them an opportunity to get some points if they don't manage to turn in the practice card that week.

Practice cards will be accepted any day of the week they are due. However, points will be deducted for each day it is late, as follows:

Turn in on Wednesday = -5 points

Turn in on Thursday = -10 points

Turn in on Friday = -20 points

A practice card that is turned in late will override the test that was taken. In the unlikely event that the test received more points than the practice card, I will keep the higher of the two scores.

Please return the half sheet to verify receipt. Thanks!

Mr. Bishop