**Ardrey Kell High School**

**Orchestra Handbook**

**2018-2019**

# Contact Information

***Email:*** Amanda.Turner@cms.k12.nc.us

***School phone:*** (980) 343-0860

***Cell phone:*** (980) 722-1157 (in case of emergency on performance nights)

***Website:*** ardreykellorchestra.weebly.com

***Facebook:*** Ardrey Kell Orchestra ***Instagram:*** @AKOrchestra

***YouTube:*** Ardrey Kell Orchestras ***Twitter:*** @AKOrchestra

# Major Performance Dates

*Mandatory for ALL Ensembles*

All performances will take place in the Ardrey Kell Auditorium

**Fall Orchestra Concert- CHAMBER ONLY**

***Wednesday, October 23, 6:00pm***

Performers need to arrive by 5:00 pm

**Winter Orchestra Concert**

***Thursday, December 12, 6:00pm***

Performers need to arrive by 5:00 pm

**Spring Orchestra Concert**

***Friday, May 15, 6:00 pm***

Performers need to arrive by 5:00 pm

*(all chamber performers will be required to attend mandatory afterschool rehearsals from 3:00-4:00 pm around a month before a concert, schedules will be handed out ASAP)*

**Letter from the Director**

Warm greetings, Orchestra Students and Families!

I am thrilled to be welcoming all of you to the orchestra program at Ardrey Kell HS this year.

My name is Amanda Turner and I have enjoyed being the orchestra director at Ardrey Kell for the past twelve years. I am originally from Northern Virginia and moved to North Carolina in 1994, where I attended University of North Carolina at Greensboro, earning both my Bachelor and Master of Music in Instrumental Music Education. I have taught in Charlotte since 1999 at both East Mecklenburg and McClintock before starting at Ardrey Kell in 2005. I am thrilled to have settled in Charlotte and at Ardrey Kell and East Meck; I find both of my schools to be a very special.

As a music educator, I strive to maintain consistently high standards for all of my students. I invite you to read this handbook thoroughly to gain an understanding of those expectations, as I will enforce them strongly. I find that students thrive in this environment of high standards, and I invite the support of their families to ensure their success.

Communication is key in all Ardrey Kell orchestral ensembles. I highly encourage students and their families to reach out to me proactively regarding grades, attendance at orchestral events, financial restraints, and general comfort in my classroom. I work to be sympathetic to the many situations that my students bring to the table, but open communication is crucial for that understanding.

I truly hope that we will see many orchestra families in attendance at our performances this year. The students enjoy performing to a full house and your enthusiasm supports ours on stage. Many parents have expressed concerns over audience behavior at our performances. I will continue this year to encourage appropriate behavior at these events, and welcome your help in doing so. Our performers deserve a quiet, polite, appreciative audience, so please model that when you are in attendance. I invite you to speak to audience members around you who are disrupting our performance. To reference one of my favorite proverbs, I believe it will take a village to change this behavior.

Finally, I invite you to become involved with the orchestral department. I am always seeking help with fundraisers, at concerts, and during field trips. The students love getting to know each other’s families, and you have much to bring to the table.

Wishing you well, and looking forward to seeing and meeting many of you this year!

# Classroom Expectations

* RESPECT – for yourself, for your classmates, for your classroom, and for your orchestra director.
* Arrive on time for class. Be seated with folder and pencil by the late bell, belongings in the front or back of the room.
* Come prepared to work. Restroom requests will only be honored in case of emergency.
* Leave gum, food, and drinks outside of class (water bottles are allowed and encouraged).
* Make pencil markings in the score as necessary and as instructed by the director.
* Know your part in all orchestral music; for help or a recording of your part, see Mrs. Turner.
* Attend all afterschool rehearsals and performances, tardiness will not be tolerated.
* Abide by all Ardrey Kell rules and regulations at all times.
* You are responsible for the care of your music, it is the property of Ardrey Kell. You will be financially responsible for loss of or damage to the music that is signed out to you.

# Grading Policy

**70% Performances, Assessments, and Written Work**

## Performance Attendance

* Orchestra is a performance-based class, and performances are required.
* Any student who is unable to attend a concert must have their parent/guardian contact Mrs. Turner in writing detailing the reason for their absence and turn it in at least **two weeks** in advance of the concert date. - Exceptions will be made for emergencies, but you must contact Mrs. Turner via e-mail or phone the night of the concert, or you will lose credit for the performance.
* You are responsible for finding reliable transportation home immediately following each performance. - Tardy arrivals will result in grade deductions. Attendance will be taken every ten minutes, with a 20% performance grade deduction for each period of time. Tardy arrival to performances frequently drops students’ grades by a letter for their semester mark. Plan ahead for traffic and parking time.
* Concert attire also affects performance grade. Students out of compliance with the required concert attire will be asked to find suitable attire or refrain from performing.
* Any student removed from the concert for any reason will not receive credit for that performance.

## Classwork and Assessments

* Classwork may include compositions, journals, worksheets, performance observations, etc.
* Any work not turned in by the end of the period will not receive credit.
* Assessments may be written (i.e. tests and quizzes) or performance-based as soloists or in small groups.

## Score Markings

* Music is due to the class music librarian on the next A-day after the concert and will be checked for appropriate markings per class instruction.
* Late music must be turned in, per music borrowing policy, but will not receive a grade.

**30% Rehearsal Participation**

* Students can earn up to 15 points for participation in each rehearsal (class and afterschool).
* Students must complete a practice log to make up their participation grade on days they are absent.
* Points are removed for inappropriate conduct (e.g. misbehavior, talking, not participating, gum).
* Students will receive a 0 for any unexcused absence (cut or lockout) or in case of a referral out of class, or for forgetting their instrument. - Students are responsible for making up any work missed on days they are absent.

## The notification and tardy policy detailed above also applies to afterschool rehearsals.

# Class Supplies

Students will need to bring in the following supplies for use in the orchestra room. Please be prepared for class with these supplies by the second week of school:

* Black two-pocket binder (1” is preferred)
* Marble Composition notebook
* Several pencils to leave in orchestra folder
* Completed and signed paperwork
* Metronome/tuner, may use smartphone app (Tonal Energy)
* Downloaded CHARMS app
* Shoulder rest, violin/viola
* Rosin
* Extra set of strings, D’Addario Preludes are great!
* Amazon Wish List Link: <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/22KDA8JO0XIL3?ref_=wl_share>

# Orchestra Fees

$75.00- Fee to participate in the class.

$25.00- Orchestra Instrument use fee for school instruments

Students in all of the ensembles are required to pay fees to cover operating costs. The money is used to purchase music, cover bus expenses for field trips, and other costs associated with the program. All of the money stays in an account designated for use only by the orchestra department.

Students borrowing school instruments will be charged a $25.00 use fee. This is to help with maintenance and upkeep of the instrument.

**Payment of $75 is due by Friday, August 31 and can be paid at:** [**www.charmsoffice.com**](http://www.charmsoffice.com) **.**

**Payment of $25 is due by Friday, August 31 and can be paid at:** [**www.charmsoffice.com**](http://www.charmsoffice.com) **.**

See Mrs. Turner for more details on this option.

# Concert Attire

***All Students:***

- Hair pulled back off your face (eyes and eyebrows fully visible) - No perfume/cologne or body spray

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| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Ladies:*** |  | ***Gentlemen:*** |
| *-*Black PANTS, black shirt |  | - Black pants, white button-down |
| - Black shoes with closed toe and low or no heel (under 3”) |  | - Black dress shoes and black socks |
| - Jewelry |  | - Nice tie, no blinking or singing |