

Classes Offered

Placements into these ensembles are determined by an audition--that way you are in the best group for you to be successful!

Jazz Band: Students are introduced to performing a new genre of music. Held during zero period, this ensemble is for advanced students who are looking for “something extra” to enhance their music experience. Auditions occur at the beginning of fall and spring quarters. Students must also be enrolled in band or orchestra to join.

Orchestra: For students who play violin, viola, cello or bass. All levels are welcome.

Percussion: Students who play drums. Serves as a Percussion Ensemble, Drumline and Concert Percussion section. Many performances throughout the year with all of the other ensembles on campus.

Intermediate Band: The next step for students who have had 2-3 years of music instruction, or for people who want to learn a new or second instrument.

Performing Band: Advanced band with multiple performance opportunities throughout the year.

Concert Band: Bernardo Yorba’s top band performance ensemble--students must pass a rigorous audition for placement into this group.

Color Guard: Accompanies the band during parade season and performs on their own as “winter guard” during the spring. You can be a part of any of our music groups and be in the color guard without any conflicts.

How Does Music Fit Into My Schedule?

Bernardo Yorba Middle offers many exciting electives. Here are some examples of how to make music fit into your schedule. **If you have questions about fitting music into your schedule, please contact Mrs. Neumayr so we can work together to get your classes set! rneumayr@pylusd.org**

(7th graders are not required to take the “Wheel” elective if they are in music)

EXAMPLE 1: BAND/ORCH & SPANISH ELECTIVE

Period 1: Language Arts
Period 2: Math
Period 3: Science
Period 4: BAND/ORCH
Period 5: Social Science
Period 6: PE
Period 7: Spanish Elective

EXAMPLE 2: BAND/ORCH & SPANISH ELECTIVE

Period 0: Spanish Elective
Period 1: BAND/ORCH
Period 2: Math
Period 3: Science
Period 4: Language Arts
Period 5: Social Science
Period 6: PE
Period 7: 2nd Elective Choice

EXAMPLE 3: BAND & HEALTH ELECTIVE

(7th graders are not required to take the “Wheel” elective if they are in music)

Period 1: Language Arts
Period 2: BAND/ORCH
Period 3: Science
Period 4: Health Elective
Period 5: Social Science
Period 6: PE
Period 7: Math

Frequently Asked Questions:

What level of band will I get placed in?

Your elementary music teacher will give me a recommendation for your appropriate placement. You may also arrange an audition with Mrs. Neumayr in April. Please email rneumayr@pylusd.org.

Can I do color guard and band or orchestra?

Absolutely! The color guard performs with the marching band, so you will do color guard during the fall. When it comes to concert season (about halfway through the month of November), you play your instrument with the concert band. **There are no conflicts between Orchestra and Colorguard.**

Do I have to haul my cello or bass back and forth to school each day?

No! We will have an instrument that you can play at school and hopefully you can use your own instrument at home. If you don’t have an instrument, we will make one available for you to have at home, too.

Is it good to switch to a different instrument?

Yes! WE REALLY NEED A FEW INTELLIGENT AND RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS TO SWITCH TO BASS OR CELLO. It is not that difficult to learn a new instrument once you have already played the violin. If your child enjoys playing this new instrument, the boosters offer **lesson scholarships** so you can take a few more lessons over the summer.

If I want to switch to tuba, baritone horn or French horn, do I need to purchase one of these?

No. The school has instruments for you to check out. We will provide an instrument for you to use at home and another one to use at school. These instruments are so important for the continued success of our band. Please consider making a switch.

Can I do sports and band?

No problem. We have many athletes in our bands. We have a few Saturday parades in October and November if you are in advanced band classes. Your absences will be excused if I know of the conflict ahead of time. Many students find that they can do the parade and their sporting event on the same day!

Here's what our musicians say:

"It helps you become better with teamwork because a band or orchestra is one very big team." (Yashwant T.)

"I think they should join band because it is a great opportunity to work with new people and learn hard songs with new notes that are really fun. Also, you get to perform and go on field trips to miss school." (Anthony M.)

"Funnest Period You Will Have!" (Cooper D.)

"Band is the best thing that I have ever done that is related to school. Mrs. Neumayr is the best teacher I could ever ask for. Band class is so much fun. You get to go on field trips and perform many fun songs. Everyone should join some musical class." (Ethan T.)

"When you join band or orchestra, you don't only learn instrumental experience but you join a family, gain friends, and create memories to cherish." (Casey O.)

"Band and orchestra can give you great memories that not a lot of other electives can." (Nikolett H.)

"Orchestra is a great elective that is lots of fun. You'll be able to hone your talent and go to fun places to perform!" (Jasper L.)

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything." (Kerry W.)

"It's fun, JUST DO IT!" (Matthew W., Giselle H.S., Alicia D.,)

It's not too late to become a musician!

- ✓ You will learn to play your instrument very fast at the middle school because we have music every day. We have some instruments available to use.
- ✓ If you stopped playing in the elementary school, give it a try in middle school. Don't let your instrument just sit there collecting dust! You will be amazed at how much you remember from your past experience.
- ✓ If you are not happy with the instrument you are currently playing, but still want to continue playing, learn a new instrument. We have many students who switch to different instruments in middle school.
- ✓ We always need students to switch to cello, bass, baritone horn, French horn, and tuba. We will provide you with an instrument and with lessons over the summer!
- ✓ If you need information about private lessons, please contact Mrs. Neumayr. Summer is a great time to get a jumpstart for the next school year!
- ✓ Music is a great way to make friends and **be successful on a daily basis!**

Bernardo Yorba Instrumental Music



Home of the
**Amazing
Matador
Musicians**

www.bymsmusic.org

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