Welcome to Music Theory! This class is designed for students who seek to enrich their knowledge of music fundamentals. Whatever musical background students come from, music theory can be intriguing and inspiring. By knowing how elements of music interact to create musical style and effect, students truly become musicians and will be better able to bring a piece of music to life and communicate its essence to others. The purpose of this course is instill the ability to distinguish, describe, comprehend, and employ music theory concepts and processes.

At the end of the course, you will be able to:
- Notate pitch and rhythm following standard notation practices
- Read and note melodies in treble, bass, and all C clefs
- Write, sing, and play major scales and all 3 forms of minor scales
- Recognize, by ear and by sight, all intervals within an octave
- Recognize, by ear and by sight, all triads and seventh chord types
- Use the basic rules that govern music composition
- Harmonize a melody in 2, 3, and 4 parts with appropriate chords using good voice leading
- Transpose a composition from one key to another
- Analyze the chords of a musical compositions using Roman numerals and chords names
- Express musical ideas by arranging and composing
- Sing melodies by sight using solfege and number systems

Required Course Materials:
- 1.5 Inch, 3-Ring Binder
- Staff Paper Notebook
- Pencils (Music notation is a precise task which requires neatness. Assignments will only be given full credit if they are in pencil. *No pens should be used at any time!*)

Course Textbooks (materials will be provided in class):
- *Practical Beginning Theory, A Fundamental Worktext*

Grading Policy

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<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Assignments, class work – 50%</th>
<th>Test, Quizzes – 50%</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st Quarter</td>
<td>Assignments, class work – 50%</td>
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<td>2nd Quarter</td>
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<td>Final Project – 20%</td>
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A grade of “zero” will be issues for any missed assignments. The standard CHS grading scale will be used as indicated in the student handbook.
Assignments

Class assignments are given, collected, and graded in order to check progress. Homework is collected at the beginning of class on the due date unless otherwise specified. **Late assignments are not accepted.** If you are absent, the assignment will be due the next session that you attend. **Extra credit work may be available periodically.** There will be a final project that we will be working on throughout the semester. It will be worth 20% of your 2nd quarter grade. More information will be provided on this project later.

Other Information

Your textbook is actually intended to be a workbook; however, we will not use the book in that manner. Please be careful not to allow the pages to tear out (some of the books are becoming a bit worn, you will need to treat them gently). **I will copy and distribute any worksheets from the text that we will use. Do not write in the text!**

If you are going to print your own staff paper, you need a three-ring binder to keep your papers in sequential order. Every new topic builds on a previous topic. Your papers need to be in the order that we learn topics so you can go back and easily find previous information to help you with something new. If you choose to purchase a staff book, the books from Kidder are about $7.50 and they will last you all semester. You will need a folder to keep assignments or papers in that get handed back. Always date your notes, assignments, or handouts.

Cell Phones will only be used in extenuating circumstances. They will not be needed for class due to our 1:1 device.

There will be times we test your keyboarding skills through the course. You are not expected to have exceptional piano skills however you will need to demonstrate your knowledge of music theory basics. Small, electric keyboards are provided for in class work. If you have access to your own keyboard or piano outside of class it is suggested you make us of this for practicing. Extra practice time with school-owned keyboards can be arranged with Mr. Speiden before or after school.

There are assignments that require the use of a computer and internet connection. Class time is given to work on these assignments, but students must understand it is their responsibilities to turn assignments in on time. If these assignments are not completed during the in-class time, students must arrange to have a computer/internet to finish the assignment by either staying after school to work in the library or at home use.

Ear training is essential to any music theory class. Ear training will be a constant process throughout the course and will be checked on a regular basis through in-class assignments that will be turned in. There are also online resources that students can use to practice ear-training concepts before a test or quiz.