

## A CAPPELLA GROUP

This extracurricular vocal ensemble is open to all students who have an interest in developing singing skills. The a Cappella style has become a growing phenomenon on high school and college campuses around the country.

### Students will:

- Learn traditional barbershop style harmonization skills
- Develop a small group singing voice
- Learn and arrange contemporary songs in the a Cappella style
- Attend yearly workshops
- Perform on stage for school and community events
- Meet before and after school as academic schedules allow

## CHAMBER ENSEMBLES & PIT BAND

Opportunities for additional instrumental skill development are available for students who wish to focus on small ensemble performance. Chamber groups for band members and the Pit Band for the musical theatre production offer the following:



### Students will:

- Increase their instrumental experience
- Gain practical experience making music in many styles and settings
- Participate in groups ranging from duos to 15 piece ensembles
- Experience different styles of music ranging from jazz and classical, to contemporary and fusion
- Develop employable music skills

## OUR MISSION

The Pentucket Regional School District seeks to inspire its students with a love of learning and to enable them to develop their academic potential and individual talents in an atmosphere that cultivates independent thinking. We will prepare our students to develop respect for others and to be responsible citizens of a global society.

## OUR VALUES

Respect  
Accountability  
Integrity  
Opportunity

Schools in the Pentucket Regional School District are dedicated to providing an up-to-date and challenging curriculum at each grade level. These curriculum brochures represent an overview of the comprehensive competencies at each grade level and in each subject and/or specialist area. Students and parents are able to review the rich curriculum offered in our District.

Pentucket Regional School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or age.



Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School  
104 Church Street  
Merrimac, MA 01860  
Tel: 978-346-8319/Fax: 978-346-7844  
*Grades Pre K-2*

Helen R. Donaghue School  
2 Union Street Extension  
Merrimac, MA 01860  
Tel: 978-346-8921/Fax: 978-346-7839  
*Grades 3-6*

Dr. Elmer S. Bagnall School  
253 School Street  
Groveland, MA 01834  
Tel: 978-372-8856/Fax: 978-521-8956  
*Grades Pre K-6*

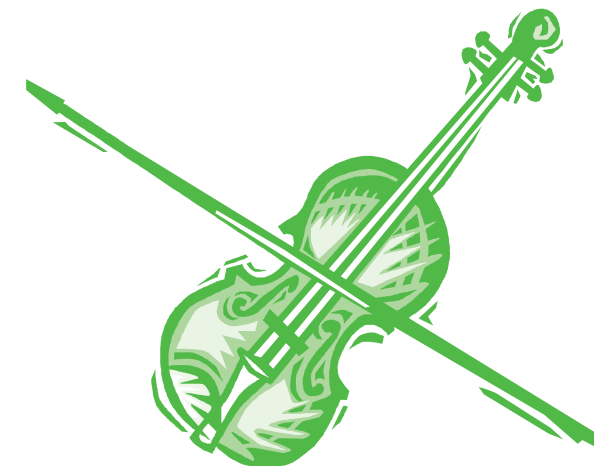
Dr. John C. Page School  
694 Main Street  
West Newbury, MA 01985  
Tel: 978-363-2671/Fax: 978-363-2234  
*Grades Pre K-6*

Pentucket Regional Middle School  
20 Main Street  
West Newbury, MA 01985  
Tel: 978-363-2957/Fax: 978-363-2720  
*Grades 7-8*

Pentucket Regional High School  
24 Main Street  
West Newbury, MA 01985  
Tel: 978-363-5507/Fax: 978-363-2730  
*Grades 9-12*

Central Services  
Office of the Superintendent  
Office of the School Committee  
22 Main Street  
West Newbury, MA 01985  
Tel: 978-363-2280/Fax: 978-363-1165

Visit us online @ [www.prsd.org](http://www.prsd.org)



## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

STRINGS  
(GRADES 4-8)  
JAZZ  
(GRADES 9-12)



## PENTUCKET REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Groveland  
Merrimac  
West Newbury

*Pentucket ... a culture of continuous learning*

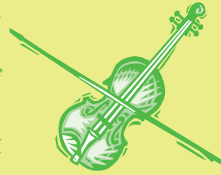
## STRINGS/GRADES 4-8

### GRADE 4

#### Students will:

##### General

- Demonstrate proper posture and playing position
- Demonstrate proper handling and care of the instrument and bow
- Identify the basic parts of the instrument and bow
- Demonstrate the correct bow hold
- Demonstrate bowing on each string



##### Rhythm and Pitch

- Demonstrate the understanding of the following rhythmic values through clapping, counting, and playing: whole note, half note, quarter note, eighth note
- Demonstrate (by singing and playing) *do re me mi* on each string
- Develop listening skills, such as identifying *do re* and *mi* on a particular string, and copying rhythms and pitches demonstrated by the teacher
- Sing, clap, and perform *Hot Cross Buns* and *Mary Had a Little Lamb* through the use of solfege and ear training
- Learn the basic notes, in first position, for the D, A, and G string
- Learn one octave D major scale
- Complete Pages 1-15 of the Essential Elements book

##### Vocabulary

- Demonstrate an understanding of the following terms: beat, quarter note/rest, music staff, bar lines, measures, treble clef, time signature, double bar, repeat sign

### GRADE 5

#### Students will:

##### General

- Demonstrate correct bow hold
- Demonstrate 2-note slurs on each string
- Demonstrate an understanding of naturals in comparison to sharps
- Demonstrate an understanding of key and time signatures

##### Rhythm and Pitch

- Identify if a pitch is out of tune, flat or sharp
- Learn the C, G, and D Major scales in one octave
- Demonstrate understanding of dotted quarter and half note rhythms
- Demonstrate an understanding of eighth note rests
- Learn how to play a piece of music in a round or canon
- Learn the notes on the E string

### GRADE 6

#### Students will:

##### General

- Demonstrate 2, 3, and 4 note slurs on each string
- Demonstrate an understanding of naturals and flats
- Learn to play in third position on the D, A, and E strings\*

\*This will be a large portion of their lesson at the end of the year, since it is difficult to learn.



### GRADE 6 (continued)

#### Students will:

##### Rhythm and Pitch

- Learn the F Major scale, as well as review the C, G, and D Major scales
- Learn the D Major scale in third position
- Demonstrate an understanding of dotted quarter and half note rhythms
- Learn and demonstrate an understanding of sixteenth notes
- Learn and demonstrate an understanding of sixteenth note and eighth note rhythms combined



### GRADES 7 & 8

#### Students will:

- Sight read varied instrumental literature, focusing on correct expressiveness, dynamics, intonation, and rhythm
- Sight read exercises and/or short etudes
- Learn and perform the D and G Major scales in third position
- Learn and perform major and/or minor scales, arpeggios, and scales in thirds as they pertain to the repertoire
- Perform publicly at least twice per year

## JAZZ / GRADES 9-12

### JAZZ COMBO

#### Students will:

- Study advanced small group jazz repertoire, style, and improvisation
- Develop strong communication, critical thinking, and active listening skills within the ensemble
- Participate in competitions with groups from across New England
- Develop independence, performance etiquette, and public address skills at dozens of performances/festivals throughout the year

### BIG BAND

#### Students will:

- Study traditional big band jazz repertoire, style, and improvisation
- Identify specific jazz forms, personalities, and styles via active listening
- Develop sectional playing and self-evaluation skills
- Learn to listen across the band and relate their own role to those of fellow ensemble members

### BLUES ENSEMBLE

#### Students will:

- Focus on the basics of improvisation, instrument roles, and swing feel
- Learn to support one another through basic ensemble communication skills
- Be able to define the chord changes of a Blues through an improvised solo
- Learn the basics of jazz forms and chord construction

### TECH CREW

#### Students will:

- Train to use professional sound, recording, and lighting equipment
- Learn backstage etiquette, procedure, and terminology
- Produce professional quality CD's using industry standard audio software
- Get paid to work events and full-scale stage productions

