Dear Parents/Guardians and students,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 Obama Academy Steel Band! Steel Band is an elective that meets Monday – Friday throughout the course of the school year. Students perform in the class using steel drums. The class will perform a wide range of music from all over the world.

Requirements for Steel Band:
Students are required to participate in class each day, complete any assigned homework, and participate in school concerts. Students are required to have a steel band folder (developmental workbook) to keep all papers related to class.

Behavioral Agreements for Steel Band:
Behavioral agreements are critical to create a strong learning community in the classroom.
1. Be fully present
2. Demonstrate control
3. Follow directions
4. Do your part in creating a successful ensemble

Students who follow these agreements all of the time will earn outstanding in citizenship. Students who follow these agreements most of the time will earn satisfactory in citizenship. Students who have difficulty following these agreements will, unfortunately, earn unsatisfactory in citizenship.

Grading Guidelines
Grades for steel band will be based on: assessments-5%, participation (rehearsal during class)-15%, practical (performance of required material)- 40%, theoretical (written work)- 40%. Performances will be graded using the IBMYP Arts Assessment criteria listed below.
The grading scale used is:
90-100% = A
80-89% = B
70-79% = C
60-69% = D
59% and below = E

IBMYP Arts Assessment Criteria

Criterion A: Knowing and understanding
Maximum: 8
At the end of year 5, students should be able to:
i. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the art form studied, including concepts, processes,
and the use of subject-specific terminology
ii. demonstrate understanding of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts
iii. use acquired knowledge to purposefully inform artistic decisions in the process of creating artwork.

**Criterion B: Developing skills**
Maximum: 8
At the end of year 5, students should be able to:
i. demonstrate the acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied
ii. demonstrate the application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art.

**Criterion C: Thinking creatively**
Maximum: 8
At the end of year 5, students should be able to:
i. develop a feasible, clear, imaginative and coherent artistic intention
ii. demonstrate a range and depth of creative-thinking behaviors
iii. demonstrate the exploration of ideas to shape artistic intention through to a point of realization.

**Criterion D: Responding**
Maximum: 8
At the end of year 5, students should be able to:
i. construct meaning and transfer learning to new settings
ii. create an artistic response that intends to reflect or impact on the world around them
iii. critique the artwork of self and others.

**Arts Process Journal**
The arts process journal is a folder that is required for each student. The folder will include all music, reflections, observations, etc.

**School Concerts**
Your child will have at least two opportunities to perform in concerts. The concerts are performed during December and May.

I hope your child enjoys 9th/10th Grade Steel Band. If you have any questions about the 9th/10th Grade Steel Band please call me at school, or e-mail kschrader1@pghboe.net.

Sincerely,

Mr. Schrader

Approved: Ms. Aisha Robinson, Director