

**First Year Course Description:** Students will work toward a comprehensive understanding of the fundamentals of music through immersion in the guitar. This course will focus on the fundamentals of the guitar and music theory.

**Second Year Course Description:** Students will work toward an advanced understanding of music through continued study of the guitar. This course will focus on advanced concepts relating to the guitar, music theory, musical genres, and other relevant musical topics.

**Expectations and Attendance:** Students will be required to follow the code of conduct set forth by Potomac Senior High School and Prince William County Public Schools.

*No food, drink, or gum will be permitted during class, excluding bottled water.*

*Cell phones are only allowed at the discretion of Mr. Gillis. No Charging of phones, ever.*

*Class attendance is required and expected. If a student accumulates ten or more absences (excused or unexcused), the student will be in danger of failing this course for the year.*

*Students are responsible for making up all missed work for days that they are absent. Makeups are done during flex.*

**Grading:** Student grades will be determined using a weighted system with the following categories:

*40% Quizzes - Weekly Playing Quizzes*

*40% Tests - Unit Tests*

*20% Rehearsal Skills - Class Preparation, Practice in class, Lesson Participation*

**Classroom Materials:** Students are expected to provide their own guitar for class (with the possible exception of free/reduced lunch students *if* instruments are available) starting the second week of school (the third class) and bring it to class daily. If a student does not have their guitar for class, they will receive an automatic deduction of fifty points from their daily participation grade.

Students are also expected to have the following three items for class. Ten points will be deducted from the daily participation grade per item when any item is missing:

- Method Book                      - Guitar Pick                      - Pencil

**Parents:** I look forward to another successful year here at Potomac Senior High School - if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Ryan Gillis  
gillisrc@pwcs.edu

**Keep this page for your records.**

\*\*\*\*\*Return only this signed page, keep the previous page for you records!

**Syllabus Agreement**

I understand the rules and expectations for the Potomac Senior High School Guitar Class and will adhere to the rules set forth by the school and Mr. Gillis.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Student Signature*

**Instrument Storage Policy Agreement**

September 2018

Dear Music Student and Parent(s):

Prince William County Public Schools makes every possible effort to provide a safe, clean, convenient, and comfortable environment for its students to study the disciplines of music. Part of this convenience is the use of storage facilities where the students may choose to leave their personal instruments either during the school day or overnight. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the school district's policy regarding responsibility.

Instrument storage spaces and rooms are for the convenience of students. Prince William County Public Schools will do everything within reason, to provide lockable places to protect personal instruments; however, a complete and foolproof system of protection is not possible. For this reason, the Prince William County School District will not accept responsibility for replacing or repairing a privately owned instrument.

The theft of an instrument is often covered in a homeowner's insurance policy. Owners of instruments should check with their insurance company to determine if coverage is available.

Sincerely,  
Ryan Gillis

I have read the document above and understand its terms and implications.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Student Name [PRINTED]*