

MINIMUM BAND REQUIREMENTS

Middle School:

- 1) Any student not passing one of the semesters will be put on probation for the following semester. If the student does not pull his/her grade up to passing by the end of the next semester, he/she will not be allowed to continue in band .
- 2) Students can be withheld from performance/field trip opportunities at the discretion of the band director and principal for failing the class, skipping a performance, or for behavioral misconduct.
- 3) Band may only be dropped at the end of a grading period (nine weeks).

8TH GRADE to HIGH SCHOOL:

- 1) Any student not receiving a passing grade for the first semester will be placed on probation. The student must pull his/her grade up to passing by the end of the third nine weeks or they will not be allowed to continue band in 9th grade.
- 2) Students must pass 3 of the 4 nine weeks practice time grades in order to advance on to high school band.
- 3) Students must pass the scale part of their audition* AND must receive at least 50% on their total audition score in order to advance on to high school band. Students who do not pass the audition will be given a second opportunity in May (if they request one) to retake the audition. Any student not passing the retake audition in May will not be allowed to sign up for high school band. Parents will be notified by letter if their child does not pass either audition.
- 4) Students must attend summer band and band camp in order to advance on to high school band (unless parents contact the band director to arrange an alternate plan).
- 5) Students can be withheld from performance/field trip opportunities at the discretion of the band director and/or principal for failing the class, skipping a performance, or for behavioral misconduct.

***NOTE:** Passing is considered to be 60% unless otherwise specified. Students with IEP's must meet those adjusted requirements.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Band Rules

- 1) There is to be **NO** chewing gum in the band room or during rehearsals or performances.
- 2) Cell phones are to be turned **OFF** during rehearsals and are **not allowed** during performances.
- 3) Every student is to have their instrument, music, and a **PENCIL** for each class and/or rehearsal
- 4) All students will be **respectful of other students** as well as adults- both from our school and from other schools.
- 5) Instruments are **NEVER** to be **blasted**. They are never to be blasted toward someone's head. This will result in immediate removal.
- 6) Drum sticks, mallets, stands, pencils, etc. are **NOT weapons**.
- 7) Practice sheets are **due** by the time the **bell rings** for **class** on the **THIRD** day. Students will receive a zero if practice sheets are not turned in by the third day.
- 8) Cursing will not be allowed or tolerated. "Uck" words can result in either push-ups or demerits. Severe misuse of language will result in removal from class.
- 9) Students will be on time for class, practices, and performances.
- 10) Students will treat all equipment that they do not own with the utmost care.

GENERAL BAND RULES

- 1) There is to be **NO** chewing gum during rehearsals or performances. **Cell phones** are to be turned **OFF** during rehearsals and are **NOT allowed** during performances.
- 2) Every student is to have their INSTRUMENT, MUSIC, and a PENCIL for each class period, rehearsal, and performance.
- 3) There is a dress code for all performances of all bands. The high school band will wear their uniforms for marching performances. **UNDERSHIRTS WITH SLEEVES and SHORTS** must be worn underneath the marching uniforms. Students will **change on the bus** at marching competitions. Band students are required to wear dress clothes for all concert performances. Ladies should wear dresses or skirts and gentlemen should wear dress slacks, shirts, and ties. Please, **NO** shorts, jeans, or tennis shoes. Anyone not complying with the dress code is subject to a penalty.
- 4) Attendance is a very important part of being a band member. Please be responsible and be at all performances. If you must miss a rehearsal or performance, please notify the band director.
- 5) The band travels frequently. Students **must** ride the bus **to** all performances. Students may leave from the performance with their family or another adult if a note of permission is written by the parent and is given to the band director prior to the student leaving. **NOTE: The bus driver is the authority when you are on the bus.**
- 6) Be on time for practices and performances! If you are late for the bus to a performance you will be left. If practices START LATE they will probably END LATE.
- 7) **Practice sheets** are due by the **beginning** of the **class** period on the third day of each week (normally Wednesday).
- 8) **Fundraising** is a necessary part of any successful band program. Students will be expected to participate in fundraising activities. All money raised is for the direct benefit of the students. Fundraisers will be done through the band department and the band boosters. Students will have an "account" in which some of the profit from fundraising will be kept. The more profit a student generates the more money the student will have credited to their "account." This money may be used for various band activities as determined by the director. The main purpose of the "account" is to accumulate money for the major trip which will happen every four years.

(cont'd)

- 9) Cursing will not be allowed or tolerated. Students will not wear offensive clothing. Every student will treat every student with respect (regardless of which school they attend). Adults will also.

Practice Requirements: Starting the fall of 2009

Dear Parent and Student,

Due to the laws governing what can, and mostly cannot, be in the aisles on a school bus, and the new power teacher, I need to change the practice requirements for middle school band students.

Starting this year, practice requirements for band students will be changed to 60 minutes each week to receive an "A" for their grade. The old requirement was based on a certain number of days and minutes, but since the students are greatly discouraged from taking their instruments on the bus, I am changing the requirement to only a number of minutes per week. The students can do it all in one day, or break it up over several. Here is the breakdown for their weekly grades:

- A = 60 minutes (100%)**
- B = 49 to 59 minutes (90%)**
- C = 42 to 48 minutes (80%)**
- D = 30 to 41 minutes (68%)**
- F = 20 to 29 minutes (50%)**
- F = less than 20 minutes (20%)**
- F = nothing turned in (0%)**

Please note that grades are given each week and are NOT based on cumulative minutes.

Practice sheets are due on the first day of the week, but they will be accepted with no deduction of credit for three days. If practice sheets are not *in the classroom* when the bell rings and turned in on the third day each week, no credit will be given (a zero will be written in the grade book). Practice grades will be based on the **GRADE PERCENTAGE (NOT the number of minutes) a student earns each nine weeks. The practice grade is a band student's homework grade and will be at least **50%** of the student's final grade. (cont'd)**

Bonus points can be earned each week by practicing more than the required time. 2 percentage points will be given for each 10 extra minutes of time for the week. A maximum of 10 percentage points may be earned each week for extra practice time (50 minutes maximum credit).