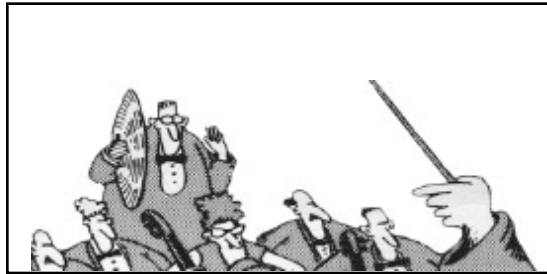


2010-11
MASON MIDDLE SCHOOL
BAND HANDBOOK



After reading the handbook, fill out the participation contract with your parents and bring it to your next band class.

Table of Contents

- I. Program Goals
- II. Student Expectations
- III. Class Rules
- IV. Grading Policy
- V. Discipline
- VI. Equipment Needs
- VII. Concert and Event Dates
- VII. Contract

I. PROGRAM GOALS

1. To provide appropriate instruction for instrumental technique.
2. To provide a safe and respectful atmosphere for all individuals involved with the program.
3. To work with students toward a common goal of performing music at the highest level of our ability.
4. To help students become independent musicians whose knowledge and skills serve as a basis for lifelong enjoyment of the arts.
5. To provide students with opportunities to develop cooperative and collaborative skills, as well as self-discipline.

II. STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Attitude

Each member is expected to be courteous and willing to work in compliance with the ensemble's standards and goals. Each member is expected to accept guidance and constructive criticism in a positive manner.

Musicianship

I expect each member to be adequately prepared for all rehearsals and performances through individual effort at home and school. Members are responsible for the accurate performance of all music assigned, and should demonstrate flexibility, consistency, and attention to detail.

Discipline

Students are to exhibit self-control and follow instructions in all rehearsals, performances, and on field trips or tours. Self-discipline is also to be demonstrated through evidence of practice at home.

Responsibility

Each student is expected to perform the duties assigned to him or her, and to take proper care of the rehearsal room, storage areas, equipment, and sheet music.

Participation

Each student is expected to be present for all rehearsals, concerts, and festival performances. Any absence from a performance will result in a lowering of the grade. Every member of a performing ensemble is vital, and we all depend on one another.

III. CLASS RULES

Be Prompt

Students are expected to be in the classroom before the bell rings. They are expected to have their instruments and necessary equipment unpacked and at their seats within a reasonable amount of time (2-3 minutes). The beginning of class is not the right time for visiting with friends!



Be Prepared

Students are expected to have all required equipment every day, which includes:

- Instrument (in good playing condition.)
- Assigned method book(s)
- Wireless Ruled Perforated 1-Subject Notebook (no spiral or composition notebooks.)
- Folder (student supplied) for keeping method books and notebook.
- School supplied music folder and sheet music.
- Pencil (Not a pen. Not even erasable pen. Yes, really...) Your pencil needs to be on your music stand and not in your case, in a binder, or in your pocket.
- Instrument accessories and cleaning supplies. Which accessories depends on the instrument you play. See the materials list (available on our website) for details.

Be Polite

This one covers so much, but basically I expect all students to treat everyone else with respect. Specifically, students must:

- * Enter the room quietly
- * Unpack and begin warming up.
- * Always raise a hand to ask questions or offer comments
- * Refrain from disrupting class
- * Exhibit a positive attitude. I expect students to support one another, and I don't tolerate teasing or put-downs.
- * Leave gum, food and drinks outside the classroom

IV. GRADING POLICY

Grades are figured using the following percentages:

Performance Assessments	60%
Classroom Effort/Adherence to rules	20%
Rehearsal and concert attendance	20%

V. DISCIPLINE

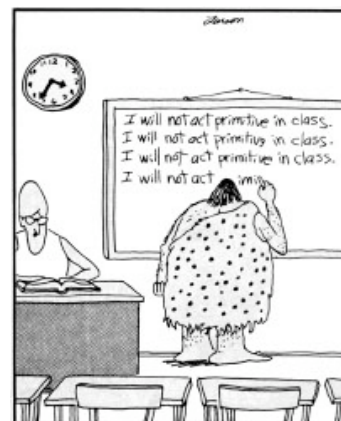
Discipline is usually not a big issue in band. Students usually choose to be in this class and understand that we are working together as a team. To present our best performance, we depend on each member to give his/her best effort at all times. I'm clear about what I expect, and if a student chooses to break rules, that student has chosen to accept consequences. I will follow the school-wide discipline procedures outlined in the student handbook and highlighted below.

1. Reminder

This may be verbal or a hand signal, depending on the situation. This gives the student the opportunity to correct a behavior and get back on track.

2. Processing

If a student has been given a reminder and persists, then I will follow the school's prescribed procedure known as "processing" where the student will be sent to another teacher's room to complete a worksheet intended to help them reflect upon (i.e. "process") their recent behavior.



3. Lunch Detention

As per school discipline policy, any student coming to class late or unprepared will be assigned a lunch detention. (This includes kids coming to rehearsal without an instrument, their music and/or pencils.) When a student's instrument is in the shop for repairs, the parents should call and leave a voicemail before their child's next class. I will try to have a loaner instrument available.

4. After School Detention & Administrative Referrals

I will assign after school detentions and/or refer students to the office as necessary, and according to school policy. Please review Mason's Student Handbook for more information.

VI. EQUIPMENT NEEDS

Please see the “Be Prepared” section under classroom rules (above) for a list of everyday equipment needs. A complete materials list that includes cleaning supplies and accessories is available on our web site: www.mustangband.org.

Students should have a metronome for home practice. A metronome is an essential tool for developing rhythmic accuracy. Students should also have a folding music stand for practice at home and field trips. Without a music stand, students generally put their music on a bed or desk, then have to use poor posture when practicing. They cost around \$15-\$20 at local music stores and online retailers.

Method Books	
Beginning Band	Standard of Excellence, book 1 (red cover)
Intermediate Band	Standard of Excellence, books 1 and 2 (blue cover)
Concert Band	Foundations for Superior Performance
Honor Band	Hal Leonard Advanced Method
	Foundations for Superior Performance

Local Music Stores		
Highland Hill Music Center	6814 6th Ave.	564-8454
Lakewood Music Center	10111-1 Gravelly Lake Dr. SW	581-2926
Ted Brown Music	6228 Tacoma Mall Blvd.	272-3211

2010-11 Band & Orchestra Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, all concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. Dates are subject to change.
For the most up-to-date information, please refer to our calendar page online at www.mustangband.org.

Date	Event	Location	Groups
September			
16	Elementary Music Night (drop in between 4-7 p.m.)	Cafeteria, Gym	EB, EO
October			
28	Masquerade Concert	Gym & Cafeteria	BO, IO, BB, IB
November			
17	Fall Band Concert	Gym	JB, CB, HB
18	Fall Orchestra Concert	Gym	HO, IO
December			
4 or 5	Festival of Trees*	Convention Center	HO, HB
10	FT to Retirement Center*	TBA	CB, IO
17	FT to Washington-Hoyt*	WA-Hoyt	IB, IO
January			
26	Beginning Orchestra Concert	Cafeteria	EO, BO
27	Beginning Band Concert	Cafeteria	EB, BB
February			
9	FT - Regional Jazz Festival	TBA	JB
12	Instrumental Solo/Ensemble	Stadium	PS
17	Small Ensemble Concert*	Blue Mouse Theater	PS
March			
15 or 16	FT - Regional MS Band Festival	TBA	CB, HB
18	Adv. Orchestra & Band Winter Concert	Stadium Auditorium	IO, HO, CB, HB
23	Beginning Orchestra Concert	Cafeteria	EO, BO, IO
24	Beginning & Intermed. Band Concert	Gym	EB, BB, IB, JB
April			
2	Jr. Daffodil Parade	Proctor District	CB, HB
19	FT - Regional Choral Festival	TBA	Chorus
27	FT - Regional String Festival	Stadium	HO, IO
May (no activities scheduled)			
June			
2	Music Dept. Finale Outdoor Concert 5 p.m.	Mason Field (gym and cafeteria in case of inclement weather.)	EB, EO, BB, BO, IB, IO, CB, HB, HO, JB, Chorus
3	FT - Leavenworth	Leavenworth, WA	HB, HO

EO-Elementary Orchestra; BO-Beginning Orchestra; IO-Intermediate Orchestra; HO-Honors Orchestra;
EB-Elementary Band; BB-Beginning Band; IB-Intermediate Band; CB-Concert Band; HB-Honor Band;
JB-Jazz Band; PS-Participating Students; FT-Field Trip

* Tentatively scheduled performance.

VII. Contract

Please sign below indicating you have reviewed the handbook information with your child, and have your child return it to me. This acts as a contract that lets me know you have received the information important to get the year off to a good start, and have read the rules and student expectations.

Finally, by signing here you are letting me know you have reviewed the concert dates and understand that all students are expected to attend concerts scheduled for them.

Thank you, and I look forward to meeting you and working with your child this year.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

Parent signature

Student Name (please print)

Student signature

Date

This page counts as a written quiz for all students!