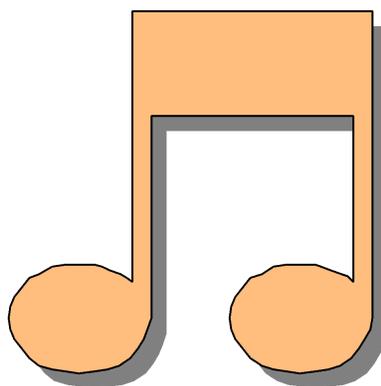


Sandburg Area Elementary School Band and Orchestra Handbook



Sandburg Area Bands

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Mission Statement

It is our goal to prepare each student for the appreciation and performance of music. They will learn music ranging from historically significant works to modern masterpieces. They will also develop their abilities as well-rounded musicians. Each student who has completed this program will be a competent musician with a strong knowledge of fundamentals, terminology, and technical ability. It is our goal to instill in them an appreciation of music that they will in turn pass on to those around them. All students will be rewarded for their hard work and dedication to the program, as well as being prepared to continue onward in the field of music.

Ensembles

Prep Band and Orchestra

The students in the Prep Band are primarily first-year band students, working out of Essential Elements, Book 1, published by Hal Leonard. Each student receives a weekly lesson at their elementary school and attends one weekly after school rehearsal. The Prep Band and Orchestra rehearse after school on Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:30 at Sandburg Middle School. These rehearsals start in October. See the calendar online for exact dates.

Intermediate Band and Orchestra

The students in the Intermediate Band are primarily second-year band students, working out of Essential Elements Book 1 and 2, published by Hal Leonard. Each student receives a weekly lesson at their elementary school and attends one weekly after school rehearsal. The Intermediate Band and Orchestra rehearse after school on Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30 at Sandburg Middle School. These rehearsals start in September. See the updated calendar for exact dates.

Guidelines for Ensembles

Attendance

The success of a musical ensemble depends upon the productive collaboration of all its members. As such, the attendance of all band and orchestra students is required at BOTH full rehearsals and weekly lessons. For a student who repeatedly misses rehearsals and/or lessons, the director will request a conference with the student's parents to discuss his or her future participation in the ensemble.

Required Materials

As in any class, students are expected to be prepared. This means they should be in their proper seats, with their required materials, ready to play when the lessons or rehearsal begin. Instruments need to be in playing condition. If an instrument needs to be repaired, please contact your director as soon as possible.

Materials for all Band Students *Denotes Recommended Materials

Music in folder, Method Book, Pencil, Music Stand (for home), Metronome*, Tuner*

Woodwind - Backup reeds, Cork Grease, Cleaning Swab

Brass - Valve Oil, Rotor Oil, Slide Grease, BERP*

Percussion - Concert sticks (Such as Vic Firth SD1), Educational Kit with Bag* (see director)

Materials for all Orchestra Students *Denotes Recommended Materials

Music in folder, Method Book, Pencil, Cleaning Cloth, Rosin, Music Stand (for home), Metronome*, Tuner*

Violins and Violas – Shoulder Rest or Sponge with rubber band

Cellos and Basses – Rock stop

Lessons

Once a week, students have a small group class in which they receive more individualized instruction and assessment. Students will receive an assigned lesson day at the beginning of the year. The lesson time will be on a rotating basis. Even though the students are excused from their class to attend the lesson, they are still responsible for any material covered in that class. Lessons differ from full band and orchestra instruction in that they are devoted more towards specific attention on individual concepts rather than general aspects of large ensemble musicianship and pedagogy.

Concert Attire

Long sleeved, collared, white, button-down shirt.

Full length black pants (no Capri gauchos)

Black socks

Black shoes

Concerts

The concerts that we give are extremely important for the students, parents, and community. The students in these ensembles have spent many hours in preparation. Please show your support by inviting other family members and friends to attend with you.

Classroom Environment

The band and orchestra rooms are shared with hundreds of students. Therefore, students will be expected to respect all equipment and personal property as if it were their own. This includes stands, chairs, percussion equipment, and other instruments. Students are permitted a small, healthy, peanut-free snack to be eaten in the hallway and disposed of before rehearsal.

Food and drinks, with the exception of water, are not allowed in the band or orchestra room.

Grading

Students will receive their band or orchestra progress reports at the end of each term with the rest of their classroom progress reports. Grades will be based on participation, weekly assessments, and individual and ensemble performance.

Expectations

1. Bring your own music and pencil to ALL rehearsals and lessons.
 2. Use correct posture and be attentive to the director.
 3. Follow rehearsal directions and stop playing immediately when the director stops conducting.
 4. Refrain from talking or leaving seat without the director's permission.
 5. Unless it is an emergency, please do not interrupt rehearsal to ask the director to use the restroom facilities.
- Failure to abide by these expectations will result in a conference with the director. Severe or repeated infractions will result in office disciplinary action.

Pick-Up

Arrangements need to be made for students to walk home or be picked up after rehearsals. Students not picked up by 4:45 p.m. will be given a warning the first time, and face further consequences afterwards.