

Fruita Middle School
Band Handbook
Derek Hurshman, Director

Be respectful to everything and everyone

Accept responsibility for yourself, actions and learning

Never touch anything that doesn't belong to you

Do your best everyday

Dear Band Students and Parents:

Please see the following responsibilities of band students at FMS to ensure that all students have the opportunity to access quality instrumental music education.

Classroom Behavior Expectations

As classes we will form social contracts that guide everyday learning and behaviors that will focus on respect, responsibility and accountability.

Students who choose to disregard the above expectations will:

Offense 1. Redirect. Teacher redirects student back to expected behavior.

Offense 2. 4 Questions. Teacher will ask the 4 questions in reference to our Social contract.

Offense 3. 5 Questions. Teacher will ask the 4 questions plus a 5th question where the student chooses to consequence. Parents will be notified of the chosen consequence and the behavior.

Offense 4. Students will have the consequence they choose as well as having behaved themselves out of class (to the office). Parents will be notified of behavior.

*Teacher will check in with student so they may behave back into class.

Class Attendance

Attendance at all rehearsals is crucial to the success of the group as well as for the students own musical growth. Ensemble Development points will be awarded each week for the time spent rehearsing as a group. An unexcused absence or attendance without an instrument will cause you to lose part or all of these points. Multiple absences may result in the student not being allowed to attend or participate in band activities such as concerts and/or festivals. Tardiness and unexcused absences will be handled according to school policy and may result in the student receiving detentions or not being allowed to play the next concert.

Grading

Summative Grades may include; playing tests, concerts, counting or fingering exercises, ensemble development, etc.

Formative grades may include; ensemble development, counting or fingering exercises, quizzes, etc.

We will use the following grading scale

4. Student regularly meets or exceeds the standard

3. Student regularly meets the standard

2. Student is beginning to meet the standard

1. Student does not meet the standard

IE. Insufficient Evidence

Learning behavior grades will be given as well for Collaboration, Civic Responsibility, Personal Responsibility and Work Ethic. Students will regularly be self-assessing their learning behaviors to help check accountability for their learning.

Concert Schedule and Absences

Please keep the Concert schedule and if at all possible schedule appointments and trips around the concert schedule.

Date	Event	Time	Place
9/28	6/7 Concert	7:00PM	FMS Auditorium
10/11	Rock-A-Thon	3:30-7:30PM	FMS Gym
11/16-17	Western Slope CBA Honor Band	TBD	TBD
12/14	6/7 Concert	7:00PM	FMS Auditorium
2/9-10	Solo and Ensemble Festival	TBD	Grand Mesa Middle School
2/15	6 th Grade and Jazz band Concert	7:00PM	FMS Auditorium
3-6	Elementary Tour (7 th Grade)	TBD	Fruita Elementary Schools
4-10	Pre-Festival Concert	7:00PM	FMS Auditorium
4/17-20	Colorado West Music Festival	TBD	TBD

Times are subject to change but I will give as much warning as I can.

Attendance at concerts is required. Students should be present for the entirety of the concert. The concert is a summative assignment in band and good communication between student, teacher, and parents can prevent any misunderstandings.

Please communicate directly with the teacher if there are any individual or unusual circumstances. Unexcused absences severely affect the group.

School District #51 Performance Contract

It is your right to participate in the band class, but it is a privilege to be a part of the performing ensemble. This performing ensemble will be representing our school in evening performances and festivals so it needs to be the best that we have to offer. Students may earn their way into the performing ensemble by fulfilling the following:

- Demonstrate positive effort during class time.
- Be prepared when you come to class and to performances. This includes:
 - Having the materials that you need like your instrument; music; pencil; book; etc;
 - Practicing your part in a timely manner so that you can keep up and do your best
 - Regular practice at home
 - Handing in assignments or taking your tests on the assigned day
 - Meeting deadlines
 - Complying to concert dress and etiquette
- This form signed and returned by both student and parent.

***By signing the page at end of handbook you agree to the above policy. ***

Because performances are a part of our music standards, we do use them as a part of our summative grading process. If you choose not to be a part of the performance ensemble, then you will be graded upon your performance portion of the standards during class.

A decision as to who will be selected to participate in concerts will be made approximately two weeks before the performance. Students not performing in the concerts will not be allowed to participate in the festivals. By signing the final page of this handbook, you understand that you need to fulfill the above requirements in order to be a member of the performing ensemble. Parents understand what is required of their child to participate as a performing ensemble member.

Concert Dress

Music Polo- students will be sized during class. An order will be placed at the beginning of the school year and students will receive their shirts once they have come in and they have paid. If the student has an older sibling that attended FMS and played in band, orchestra or choir, they can use their old polo.

- Black Dress Pants (leggings or yoga pants and black jeans only by approval of director)
- Black Socks/Stockings if needed
- Black Dress Shoes are preferred- NO FLIP FLOPS/ SANDALS

**NO Skirts or dresses of any length allowed!

***Concert dress is required at all performances unless otherwise communicated. If a student arrives at a concert not wearing the designated attire, that student will not be allowed to perform resulting in an unexcused absence and therefore no concert points.*

Care of Music

Each student is expected to maintain a current 3 ring binder of all music handed out. A black one will be provided to all students. Keep your binder in your assigned locker. Always have your binder in class. Periodic binder checks count as a quiz grade. A music replacement fee will be charged for any lost or damaged music. Fee amount is determined by price of original music. All music must be turned in when directed by the teacher. It is against copyright law for anyone to have copies in their permanent possession.

Method Books

Band members will need to purchase the required text for class. 6th Grade students will be using Sound Innovations for Concert Band, book 1 & 7th graders will be using Sound Innovations, book 1 and 2. Private lessons are highly recommended for students wishing to excel on their instrument. A list of private teachers is available upon request.

Instruments

All students need to supply their own instrument unless arrangements have been made to rent a school-owned instrument, which rent for \$100 for the year. Some parents find it best to rent an instrument from a local music store on a rent-to-own basis.

District ID Tags must stay on the instruments - if a school issued instrument is returned missing the ID Tag Students will be charged \$10 to cover the costs to the District for replacing the tag. Students are responsible for all damage to school issued instruments.

Insurance

School district insurance does not cover the loss of personal instruments, even if the loss occurred on school property

Accessories

(Most accessories are supplied with instruments rented from a music store)

Reeds - Reed strength should be #2.5 -3 for clarinet students, Size #2.5 for Saxophone students. Recommended reed brands for clarinets are Mitchell Laurie or Rico Royal; Saxophone - Rico Royal. Clarinets and Saxophone students should have a supply of three reeds and a cleaning swab.

Flute students - Need to have a cotton handkerchief or similar cloth for swabbing.

Brass - each student needs to have a bottle of valve oil or trombone slide lubricant.

Percussion-students are required to own a stick bag with a good pair of drumsticks (5A, 747,SB1), a good pair of bell mallets (Musser M4, Balter MB06), and a good pair of yarn mallets (Musser M6, Balter CWB21) or the equivalent. 7th grade students are also required to have a pair of Tympani Mallets (ProMark Performer series, Medium) A Bell Kit is a must for all percussion students and all grades for practice purposes. Please see Mr. Hurshman for further information.

A music stand is highly recommended for proper posture and instrument position when practicing at home.

Please make sure that your instrument has a nametag on the outside!

Please label all your personal books, music and other equipment with your name!

Band Room Access

I usually arrive by 7:25 a.m. and leave in the afternoon about 3:25 p.m. If you must leave during the day for an appointment, illness, etc., please feel free to quietly come into the room and get your instrument. Once the band room is locked, only the director or an administrator may open the doors. I have asked, for the security of our equipment and yours, that the custodians not open the room for any reason. When storing an instrument in the Band Room, I recommend that you purchase a combination lock. **NO KEYED LOCKS!** You will need to make sure Mr. Hurshman also has the combination.

Fundraisers

The annual Rock-a-Thon Fundraiser will take place at a time to be determined. It is our only fundraiser at the middle school level and 100% of the proceeds go directly to the band. We will need parent volunteers, as the event gets closer.

Communication

Please feel free to reach out at any time with questions, comments or concerns. It is best to reach me through e-mail but you can call as well. I do my very best to respond within 24 hours.

Fruita Middle School 254 - 6570 Ext. 35123
Mr. Hurshman's e-mail derek.hurshman@d51schools.org

Musically,

Mr. Derek Hurshman,
Band Director
Fruita Middle School

PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE TO THE BAND DIRECTOR

As a student and a member of this band, I have read this handbook/performance contract and understand the requirements. As a member of this band, I will assume the obligations and responsibilities and agree to follow the principles, rules and regulations.

(Student Signature/Date)

As parents/guardians of this child, we understand the rules and regulations which our child is expected to follow. I have taken note of the concert schedule and will inform the director of any conflicts that may occur.

(Parent Signature/Date)

Please sign and return by Friday August 25, 2023

Please fill out the following information for our records.

Student Name

Band Class

Instrument

Reminder: All instruments must have a nametag on the outside of the case.