

WESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS



Handbook/ Syllabus

6th Grade Beginning Band - 4th Hour

7th Grade Concert Band - 7th Hour

8th Grade Concert Band - 1st Hour

8th Grade Jazz Band - 5th Hour

Parents/Guardians and students are requested to read the contents of this handbook. Email jontaj.wallace@wsdpanthers.org or call 517-841-8810 if you have questions regarding this handbook. **After reading the handbook, please sign and return the last page.**

Band Room Traffic Flow

- Allow passage between chairs and stands
 - Store instruments accordingly
- Seating chart diagram
 - How to get to your seat
- Remain in your seat
- Exiting the classroom

Classroom rules

- No food, drink, or gum
 - Water is acceptable
- Have a pencil
- Personal devices (cell phones) must stay locked in your locker
- Play only your own instrument

Classroom Procedure

- Attendance is taken 2 minutes after the bell
 - Students not seated by this time are documented as tardy
- Students are to remain in their rehearsal space throughout the rehearsal
- Rehearsal will go until 2 minutes before the bell rings

Courteous Expectations

- Return chairs and music stands to band room
- Store your instrument with the case closed and in its assigned location
- During rehearsal, store your empty case either:
 - Under your chair
 - On the right side of your chair
 - In its locker or assigned storage location

iPad Protocol

- Thumbs up/down sign
- Gaming is cause for referral
- Store under chair during rehearsal or in case when not being used in rehearsal.

Grade Weighting

- 35% Bandsmanship
 - Having materials needed to participate in rehearsal
 - Active participation in rehearsal
 - Three points are awarded during each rehearsal
 - Credit cannot be made-up
- 30% Musical Development
 - Written work
 - Assessments

- Credit is not given when class time is provided to complete an assignment and the assignment is not received within the class period that it is due.
- Late work may be deducted by 20%
- 35% Performances
 - By taking this course the student is committing to the following dates and *times of performances, not within the school day:

6th Grade Beginning Band

Rental Meeting	August 28	6:00pm
Fall Concert	October 22	5:30pm
Holiday Concert	December 12	5:30pm
Picture Day	TBD	
Mid-Winter/Pre-Festival Concert	February 12	5:30p.m
Spring Concert	May 20	6:00

7th Grade Concert Band

Fall Concert	October 22	6:15p.m.
Holiday Concert	December 12	6:15 p.m.
Picture Day	TBD	
Mid-Winter/Pre-Festival Concert	February 12	6:15pm
Band Festival	March 6/7/8	TBD
Spring Concert	May 20	7:00 p.m.

8th Grade Concert Band

Home Football Game	October 18	5:00 p.m.
Fall Concert	October 22	6:15 p.m.
Holiday Concert	December 12	6:15 p.m.
Picture Day	TBD	
Mid-Winter/Pre-Festival Concert	February 12	6:15pm
Band Festival	March 6/7/8	TBD
Spring Concert	May 20	7:00 p.m.

8th Grade Jazz Band

Fall Concert	October 22	5:30 p.m.
Holiday Concert	December 12	5:30 p.m.
Picture Day	TBD	
“Chilly” Jazz Dinner	February 4th	5:30pm
Spring Concert	May 20	7:00 p.m.

- Students must arrive *20 minutes early to check-in and warm-up
- All absences from a performance, including those due to illness, emergency, and unavoidable commitments, require a make-up assignment to replace this portion of the grade
 - A written assignment will be assigned by the director
 - It is the student’s responsibility to complete the assignment
 - Make-up assignments are due exactly one week following the performance
 - The concert-reflection assignment must still be completed

- Transportation for performances can be prearranged upon special request
- Concert attire can be prearranged upon special request
 - Uniform for all Middle School performance ensembles is all black.
 - Entirely black.
 - Long sleeves are preferred
 - Skirts can only be worn with leggings or tights, and vice versa.
 - Feet must also be covered and shoes should be entirely black.
 - Specific accent colors are sometimes allowed and will be included with other concert details.

Instrument Care

- Swab daily
- Oil when needed
- Thoroughly clean your instrument as needed
- Put away and store your instrument as instructed
- Keep a name tag on the outside of your instrument case

Instrument Repair Policy

- Personally/Private owned- owner is responsible for all repairs
- Rented/Instrument Insurance- repairs are insured through a music company
- School Owned - \$10 co-pay plus parts and/or loss
- Marshall Music and Meyer Music store represents visit weekly

School owned instruments

- Instruments are provided for students whom would not have an instrument otherwise
- Students must be a Bandsman in good standing (passing bandmanship weight of grade and passing course) to retain a school-owned instrument
- Parent/Guardian and student must sign a loan agreement

Instrument Supplies

- Order form available in the classroom
- Woodwind Checklist:
 - Cork grease
 - Cleaning Swab
 - Mouthpiece brush
 - 3 Good reeds at all times
- Brass Checklist:
 - Tuning slide grease
 - Cleaning snake
 - Valve/Slide oil
 - Mouthpiece brush
- Percussion Checklist:
 - Personal stick bag:
 - Snare drum sticks

- Rubber mallets
- Yarn mallets
- Timpani mallets
- School-owned equipment is cared for after each rehearsal
- Music is stored in assigned location

Academic Standard

- Students are expected to pass all classes including band. Students that are failing 2 or more classes for a quarter will be put on probation with the risk of being removed from band and put into a boost class. Please make the necessary arrangements to stay on top of your school work. Communication is key!

WESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS



HANDBOOK/SYLLABUS CONFIRMATION FORM

By signing this form you acknowledge receipt of the policies of the Western Middle School Bands. You have been notified of the performance dates and times, and commitment expectations.

By signing this form you are permitting your child to travel via school transportation to and from all “away” band activities, both during school hours (i.e. field trips) and after school hours, with the knowledge that itineraries for these trips are emailed via the email address listed in PowerSchool. It is understood that medical treatment while involved in Band activities abides by school policy and state law.

Questions regarding this form and policies within the handbook should be directed to:
Mr. Jontaj Wallace, (517) 841-8810, Email: jontaj.wallace@wsdpanthers.org

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Do you accept PowerSchool email messages? _____ YES _____ NO

Are you interested in volunteering at any of the following events this year?

_____ Concert Refreshments

_____ “Chilly” Jazz Supper

_____ Concert Check-in

_____ Band & Orchestra Festival

_____ Help with Band Boosters as needed

Please provide your name, phone, and email to the Western Band Boosters for volunteerism:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____