

SOUTHWESTERN MIDDLE SCHOOL

WILDCATS



**2024-2025
BAND HANDBOOK**

Southwestern Middle School Wildcat Bands

As a member of the band, you are a member of a team. We all must work together to achieve the many successes that are in our future. Over the course of this school year, try to remember the many reasons for participating in Band such as *“Learning an Instrument”*, *“Fun”*, *“Teamwork”*, *“A Sense of Belonging”*, *“Learning Responsibility”*, *“Music Makes You Smarter”*, *Cultural Enrichment”*, and many others. It is exciting to think about how much we really will accomplish this year.

Parents: Insuring student success in the band program requires cooperation from the teacher, student, and parent. Parents are a great support system for their children and should provide structure, praise, encouragement, and practice time. This handbook has been prepared to help you know what is expected of each student. Please become familiar with its contents and support your musician and the total band program.

Students and Parents:

- Please read through this handbook carefully and discuss it together.
- Please keep this handbook in a safe place, so you may refer to it if the need arises. It will also be available on the school website.
- If you have any questions regarding this handbook or your child’s progress, please feel free to contact the band director.

Sincerely,

Tom Eisan
Director of Bands
Southwestern Middle School
Tippecanoe School Corporation
teisan@tsc.k12.in.us
School Phone: (765) 538-3025

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS FOR BAND

1. Students must be in their seat with all required materials by the end of the passing period.
 - Tardiness will follow the Southwestern Middle School Tardy Policies.
 - Restroom Policy will follow the Grade Level Restroom Policies.
2. Gum, candy, food, or drinks are not allowed in the classroom at any time.
3. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking or leaving your seat, unless there is an emergency.
4. Keep your hands, feet, and all other objects to yourself - No Bullying
5. Do not disrupt the education of other students in any way or manner.

Follow these simple rules, and we will have a successful school year

EXPECTATION CONSEQUENCES

- 1st time: Verbal Warning (you will be aware)
- 2nd time: Student conference with the teacher after class
- 3rd time: Parents contacted AND detention before, after, or during school.
- 4th or more times: Discipline Referral to Office + Parents Contacted

TECHNOLOGY EXPECTATIONS FOR BAND

1. Bring your Chromebook charged and ready to use when needed for class or remote learning.
2. Your Chromebook will be used primarily for playing tests, music theory, Newsela and other web-based assignments.
3. When your Chromebook is not being used for class, it should be put away under your seat.

Students are expected to respect each other as individuals, demonstrate good citizenship, follow class rules and expectations, participate in class in a positive manner, and complete class work and homework to the best of their ability by the scheduled due date.

CONCERT DRESS CODE

It is very important all the Southwestern Band students present a good appearance at all school and public performances. A "Band Polo Shirt Order Form" is included in this handbook for your viewing. The same form will be sent home with all NEW band students in early September. Please take note of the other required attire in the Southwestern Band Dress Code:

The dress code for all performances is as follows:

Gentlemen:

- Southwestern Band Polo Shirt (Please wear a white shirt under your polo shirt)
- Black Dress Pants
- Black Socks
- Black Dress Shoes.

Ladies:

- Southwestern Band Polo Shirt (Please wear a black or white shirt under your polo)
- Black Dress Pants
- Black Socks
- Black Dress Shoes – Black flat OR closed-toe shoe with a maximum of a 2-inch heel.

Please Note: Each band class yearbook picture will be taken at one of the school band concerts.

DAILY REHEARSAL PROCEDURES

1. Enter the room with a positive attitude and good behavior.
2. Find your seat quickly and read the daily agenda.
3. Attendance and announcements.
4. Get your band instrument, music folder, and return to your assigned seat.
5. Put your music and materials in order according to the daily agenda.
6. When the teacher is on the podium, no one should be talking.
7. If you are well enough to be at school, you are well enough to play your instrument. If you have an injury or illness inhibiting you from participating in class, a note is required from your doctor or the school nurse.

Equipment Rental and Care

Equipment Care:

Your band instrument will function properly if you care for it properly.

All students are expected to:

- Keep their instrument(s) in good working condition
- Keep their music book and black music binder in good condition
- Keep the band folder cart and school issued instrument storage lockers in good condition
- Students are responsible for all sheet music issued to them.

Band Instrument Storage and Lockers

Student Instrument Storage Area:

A place to store your instrument is provided by the school. Students are responsible for any item contained in the storage area. The band storage and locker areas are school property and subject to search at any time by school officials and/or law authorities. Please respect the storage areas and plan on taking your instrument home each day to practice and be prepared.

CLASS MATERIALS

Students are expected to bring the following materials to class each day without exceptions.

Beginning Band:

- Musical Instrument
- Flat Black 1 inch 3-ringed binder for sheet music
- Yellow Highlighter
- Beginning Band Starter Pack – Purchased from the music store
- Items included in the Paige’s Music Starter Pack are listed below:
 - Essential Elements 2000 Interactive Band Method – Book I
 - Instrument maintenance supplies include items such as: pencil, reeds, valve oil, slide grease, cork grease, swabs, mouthpiece cushions, polishing cloth, etc.

Intermediate Band:

- Musical Instrument
- Essential Elements 2000 interactive Band Method - Book II (Prices can vary)
 - We will order this book in Late October
 - Woodwind and Brass Book II: \$13.00
 - Percussion Book II: \$18.00
- Southwestern RED Warm-up Binder - Provided by the school
- Flat Black 1 inch 3-ringed binder for sheet music
- Pencil (PLEASE – NO PENS)
- Proper instrument maintenance supplies: Reeds, valve oil, slide grease, cork grease, swab, etc.

Advanced Band:

- Musical Instrument
- Essential Elements 2000 interactive Band Method - Book II
- Southwestern White Warm-up Binder – Provided by the school
- Flat Black 1 inch 3-ringed binder for sheet music
- Pencil (PLEASE – NO PENS)
- Proper instrument maintenance supplies: Reeds, valve oil, slide grease, cork grease, swab, etc.

Grading Policy for Classroom and Remote Learning

10% Daily Preparedness and Habits

- Students try their best to have a positive attitude and respectful behavior.
- Students come to class prepared with the proper materials each day.
- Students are prepared to play all required music in class each day.
- Instrument Care and Maintenance - Students should keep their band instrument in good working condition every day.

20% Homework and Classwork

- Homework will cover music theory, music history, music terms and vocabulary, which will be used to prepare for assessments.
- Late Work – Follows the student's grade level late work policy.

10% Written Tests

- Students will be tested over music theory, music history, music terms and vocabulary. In class, we will also write reflective and self-assessment journals regarding aspects of being a good musician, concert preparation, and concert etiquette.

20% Playing Tests

- Playing Tests will be used to assess student progress several times throughout each grading period. Playing tests will be worth 20 points each. Students will be tested on material covered in class by using the TSC Playing Test Rubric.

10% Final Exam/End of Course Assessment

- Students will take either a written or performance based final exam at the end of each semester.

30% Concert Attendance

- ALL practices and performances have been scheduled in advance and are a co-curricular requirement of band class. Band concerts and performances should not conflict with any Southwestern sporting activities. Please see the attached calendar of events. No points or grade can be earned if a student is not in attendance for any scheduled performance.
 - Students are expected to attend each required performance.
 - Unexcused absences will not be accepted.
 - Excused absences (illness, death in the family, etc) will only be accepted with a signed note from a parent or doctor's note on file with the school office.
 - Missing any performance will require make-up work.
 - Missing more than 2 scheduled performances in a school year will result in the removal from band.
 - No Make-up work is available for ISSMA Band Contest
 - Please plan ahead and be a participating and valued member of our team.

Extra Credit and Make-up Work

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

The Southwestern Band Department participates in the Box Tops for Education program sponsored by General Mills Company. Clip the box top coupons from the many participating General Mills products and turn them into your teacher. Each coupon is worth \$.10 and will be used to help Southwestern band students. To get the extra credit, please bring un-expired box tops in a Ziploc type container marked with the first and last name of the student. You can also turn in the Box Tops for Education Sheets with the box tops glued on the sheet.

- 10 Points for every 100 Box Tops

HONOR BANDS

Any Intermediate Band and Advanced Band student who participates in the Indiana Bandmasters All-Region Band. This is a Saturday and Sunday commitment.

- 30 Points - 3 Rehearsals after school with the teacher to prepare the music.
- 60 Points - Attend the Saturday rehearsal and perform in the Sunday concert

NON-SOUTHWESTERN CONCERT ATTENDANCE

Students who attend approved concerts and show proof of attendance may receive extra credit. This includes concerts by other TSC performance groups, symphony concerts, collegiate music concerts, Purdue Convocations, and other approved performances.

- 20 Points per review (Program Bill or Concert Program Handout is Required)

CONCERT REVIEWS & MUSIC REPORTS

Students can receive extra credit if they write a review of a recently attended concert or performance. Music reports, on approved topics, can be turned in for extra credit. The source for the information must be cited. Plagiarism or anything remotely close will not be accepted.

- 20 Points per review (Program Bill or Concert Program Handout is Required)

MUSIC COMPOSITIONS

Composing your own music is highly encouraged. Any student who is interested in composing music for members of the band to perform.

- 20 Points per composition
- Must be Teacher Approved

SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST

The annual Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) Solo & Ensemble Contest will be held in at Harrison High School. All band students are highly encouraged to participate in the ISSMA contests. Students interested in participating in solo and ensemble will be responsible for filling out the ISSMA forms provided by the band director and preparing their pieces.

- 40 Points - Music preparation in and out of class
- 60 Points - Performance of your Solo or Ensemble



Southwestern Wildcats

2024-2025 Wildcat Band Calendar

Monday September 2, 2024	Indiana Bandmasters Association All-Region Honor Band Student Application Online Applications open 9/2/24 to 9/13/24 <i>Advanced Band Students Only</i>	All Student Applications MUST be completed on the IBA Website
Friday September 30, 2024 (Order Form - Will be sent home with students)	Southwestern Band Shirt Order Deadline All order forms with payment are due. <i>All Beginning and NEW Band Students</i>	Due by the end of the school day 10/4 /24
Wednesday, October 16, 2024	TSC Fall Band Festival McCutcheon High School Permission Slip Required <i>Advanced Band Students Only</i>	7:00 PM McCutcheon Auditorium
Monday November 11, 2024	Southwestern Veteran's Day Ceremony <i>Advanced Band Only</i>	11:00 AM SMS Gym
Week of October 21, 2024	Pass out ISSMA Solo & Ensemble Music <i>Intermediate and Advance Bands Only</i>	During Class
Saturday & Sunday November 16 & 17, 2024	Indiana Bandmasters Association All-Region Honor Band Southmont H.S. in Crawfordsville <i>Advanced Band Only</i>	Schedule of events is on the IBA website
Friday November 22, 2024	ISSMA Solo and Ensemble Contest Entry Fee Deadline <i>Intermediate and Advanced Band Only</i>	Due by the end of the school day 11/22/24
Wednesday December 11, 2024	Winter Band Concert at Southwestern <i>Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Bands</i>	7:00PM Southwestern Gym
Saturday February 1, 2025	ISSMA Woodwinds, Brass & Percussion Solo and Ensemble Contest ** Snow Date is February 10 **	TBA
Wednesday March 12, 2025	March Concert <i>Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Bands</i>	Southwestern Gym
Saturday March 15, 2025 Saturday April 5, 2025	ISSMA Band Contest Permission Slip Required <i>Intermediate and Advanced Bands Only</i>	TBA
Wednesday May 14, 2025	Spring Band Awards Concert <i>Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Bands</i>	TBA

Private Lesson Tudors

1. Many of our Southwestern band students are already taking advantage of this great opportunity. In the Lafayette Area, we have many great instrumental music teachers who have a great amount of musical experience.
2. Private lessons are strongly encouraged and a highly recommended way for band students to learn more about their instrument. This individual attention can be very important in helping children develop their musical ability to its fullest potential.
3. Students who take private lessons are almost always among the most advanced and capable band students.
4. Private lessons provide individualized instruction on your instrument that neither rehearsals nor sectionals can offer.
5. Lessons generally meet once a week and you will be practicing a method book in addition to your band music.
6. Please contact the director of bands for an **approved private lesson teacher list**.

Please call if you need a recommendation for a private teacher.



Private Lesson Teacher Form

Band Student First & Last Name: _____

_____ **I do not currently take lesson, but I am interested in improving my skills as a musician.**

_____ **I currently take lessons and will complete the information below:**

Approved Private Lesson Teacher: _____
First and Last Name

Approved Private Lesson Teacher Phone Number: (____) - ____ - _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____



Southwestern Middle School
SAMPLE Order Form
Band Polo Shirt

Instructions:

1. Please read the entire order form carefully, as this is a **SAMPLE FORM ONLY. DO NOT fill out this form.**
2. The Band Polo shirt is a required part of each band student's concert attire. *All Shirts are Adult Sizes.*
3. Your child has been fitted for their shirt in class. If possible, you want your child's shirt to last for 3 years.
4. If you have more than ONE child in band, please *complete a separate form for each student* AND send the forms together with one payment.
5. We do not have current prices on shirts yet. Prices will be on the Official Form.
6. All order forms with payment are due by: **THIS IS A SAMPLE FORM**

***** If you disagree with the suggested shirt size, please change the shirt size and sign below.**

<u>Extra Small</u>	<u>Small</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Large</u>	<u>XL</u>	<u>2-XL</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Student Name: _____
First Name Last Name

***** Please send cash or check payable to: Southwestern Band Boosters.**

***** All order forms with payment are due of THIS IS A SAMPLE FORM.**

***** Remember – The OFFICAL ORDER FORM from the graphics company will be sent home with your child in early September. Do NOT send this form or payment until you receive the OFFICIAL FORM from the graphics company.**

Parent Chaperone & Booster Form

We are blessed to have to opportunity to have an exceptional music program at Southwestern Middle School. However, the program cannot be successful without supportive parent volunteers. As we have all learned, if everyone pitches in with one duty or activity, then the burden is much easier to bear for all. Your assistance with any of the items listed below will be greatly appreciated. If you are not a certified teacher in Indiana, you must complete an expanded criminal background check. TSC requires all chaperones to complete a background check. Background checks are good for 3 years.

Please check all areas below you can help out during this school year.

I can help with supervision before one or more of the band concerts.

Please check all that apply:

December Band Concert – December 11, 2024

March Band Concert - March 12, 2025

Spring Concert - May 14, 2025

I will be chaperone for the (ISSMA) Indiana State Schools of Music Association Band Contest. The band contest will be on ONE of the following days:

Saturday March 15, 2025 (Performance site determined by ISSMA)

OR

Saturday April 5, 2025 (Performance site determined by ISSMA)

Wildcat Band Handbook - Confirmation Form

- The classroom teacher has discussed the Wildcat Band Handbook and its policies and procedures with your Southwestern student.
- The Wildcat Band Handbook has also been sent to the **email** you provided the school when you registered your child.
- Please check the appropriate box(s) and return the signed confirmation sheet with your child by:
- **Semester 1 = Friday August 23, 2024.**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

I have signed and included the following forms with my child:

___ Band Parent Chaperone & Booster Form - ***Required for all Parents***

___ Band Private Lesson Teacher Form - ***Optional for any students***

IMPORTANT: Please sign below to indicate parent(s) and student(s) have read and understand the Wildcat Band Handbook and its policies. Please return this paper and any others to the teacher. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Eisan via email or phone.

x _____
Parent/ Guardian Signature

Date

x _____
Student Signature

Date

Mr. Tom Eisan
Director of Bands
Southwestern Middle School
Tippecanoe School Corporation
School Email: teisan@tsc.k12.in.us