

Sunrise Lions Band

2024-2025 Handbook



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Course Summary

5th Grade Band

This *year-long class* focuses on the introductory level of instrumental performance, set forth by DVUSD. This group performs at 2 concerts per year. Topics touched on include: instrument assembly and maintenance, music literacy at a beginning level, and beginning performances.

6th Grade Band

This *year-long class* focuses on moving from a beginning/introductory level of instrumental performance to an intermediate level of instrumental performance, set forth by DVUSD. This group performs at 2 concerts per year, Honor Band (selected students), All-State Band (selected students), solo and ensemble, and a spring festival (possibly). Students begin focusing on the whole group aspect of performance rather than individualized items.

Materials Needed

All Students		
Brass Musicians	Woodwind Musicians	Percussion Musicians
Instrument	Instrument	Instrument (practice pad and bell kit)
Valve Oil	Reeds – Juno or Vandoren brand preferred	Snare Sticks - Vic Firth SD1 General
Tuning Slide Grease	Oboe reeds - must be Obonik or D's Reeds -- store bought will not work!	
Slide 'O' Mix (trombones only)		
Rotor Oil Valve (French horn only)	Silk Instrument Swab	
	Mouthpiece Cap (Saxes/Clarinets)	
5th Grade	6th Grade	
1. <i>Habits of a Successful Beginner Band Musician</i> (Book 1/Green book) for their instrument	1. <i>Habits of a Successful Beginner Band Musician</i> (Book 1/Green book) (will start year reviewing book 1)	
2. Pencil	2. Pencil	
3. Music stand for home practice	3. Music stand for home practice	
4. Teacher provided folder for music/book	4. Teacher provided folder for music/book	

Classroom Policies and Rehearsal Etiquette

1. Classroom Flow

a. Arrival to class

- i. Students should be “set” within the first 5 minutes of rehearsal.
 1. Instruments assembled and ready to be played
 2. Music and pencil on music stand
 3. Student in assigned seat, unless otherwise instructed by director.
- ii. Students not “set” within the 5-minute allotted time on a consistent basis risk lowering their score for DVUSD Outcome 17, tied to curriculum standard (MU.PR.6.PE.5a).

b. During Class

- i. Students are asked to be attentive and actively participate in each rehearsal.
- ii. Rehearsals end at the director’s discretion
 1. The director will ensure student timeliness to their next class, setting aside 5 minutes at the end of each class for picking up.
- iii. When given individual/personal practice time, students should be focused on the task and use that time wisely

c. Conclusion of class

- i. Students are responsible for packing up all materials. This includes instrument care and maintenance!
- ii. Some classes may need to put away chairs and stands!

d. A list of DO NOTS -- sorry, but this is important for the safety of students and equipment!

- i. No running or horseplay is permitted at any time.
- ii. No food, drinks, or gum in the band room (water is always allowed)
 - 1. **Gum is never allowed and will be met with an immediate detention.** This is a safety hazard for the wind player and the sugars in the gum can ruin instruments. This is also a campus policy and will not be tolerated in the band room.

2. Behavior

- a. The band program closely follows all DVUSD and Sunrise student rights and responsibilities, with most issues being handled in the classroom and with parent communication.
 - i. Actions can include: verbal warnings, communication with classroom teacher, communication with parent/guardian, reflection sheets, or office referral.

Attendance

Attendance and participation during in school rehearsals is required unless a student is absent from school and/or testing with notification from the classroom teacher. There are often extra events for band that require outside of the day attendance. All events are listed in our online calendar, emailed out as reminders, and on the school calendar. Please see descriptions of such events below:

1. Concerts and Festivals

- a. Students are *required* to attend concerts and festivals for their respective band. Some may be during the day and some may be after school hours.
- b. Students are expected to arrive at the given call time in the proper attire.
- c. Students are required to attend the concert in its entirety. This includes watching the performance from the designated arrival time to the conclusion of the final piece. *Students who fail to attend will risk a deduction from their concert etiquette grade. This meets curriculum requirements to stay and listen!*

2. Extra Rehearsals

- a. Out-of-School rehearsals may be required on occasion. Attendance is mandatory in order to participate in the upcoming performance.
- b. Out-of-school rehearsals may be scheduled closer to major events. The teacher will be understanding of attendance if scheduled with LESS THAN 2 weeks' notice.

3. Absences

- a. Please know that absences in band affect the large group. One person missing alters the overall sound production. A percussionist or student who is the only on their instrument missing an event means a part is not covered and missing.
- b. Absence Communication
 - i. Any student planning to miss a required event or required rehearsal must have the parent/guardian contact the director at least *2 weeks prior to the event*. A reason is required. This helps the teacher understand circumstances so as to know if this is excused or unexcused. No reason provided could result in a failing score.
 - ii. Any student who misses a required event due to family emergency or illness must communicate that to the director as soon as possible (immediately following return to school is asked). The director understands that may not be prior to the event, hence, emergency.
 - iii. Alternate assignments are provided to any student unable to attend the performance, deemed excused, and have followed the proper communication timeline.
- c. Unexcused Absences
 - i. Any student who does not communicate an absence on time, following guidelines above, or get their absences approved from the director will result in an unexcused absence.
 - ii. Unexcused absences will result in a failing grade for the event.

- iii. Too many unexcused absences from performances could result in the student's removal from the band program.
 - 1. This includes any assembly performances held during the school day.
- d. 5th Grade and 6th Grade Band Classes
 - i. Students attend band class during the special area class time on 3 days per week.
 - 1. Students attend Art or PE on those days they are not attending band.
 - 2. All students attend Full Band rehearsals on Tuesday and Thursday.
 - 3. Students attend their sectional rehearsal on the following schedule:
 - a. **Monday = Woodwinds** (flute, clarinet, oboe, and saxophones)
 - b. **Wednesday = Brass** (trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium/baritone, and tuba)
 - c. **Friday = Percussion**
 - 4. *Students are NOT pulled from a core class!* Band does not interfere with math, science, social studies, science, nor SAGE classes. If a student is missing work in that class, it is not because of band rehearsal.
 - ii. It is the student's responsibility to know when to come to class.
 - 1. Any band class not attended while the student is at school will result in a lowered score for DVUSD Outcome 17.
 - 2. Any assessment or work missed due to absence from class, but presence at school, needs to be made up either on or before their next scheduled class.
 - 3. Absences from school result in an absence from band class. Missed assignments should be made up in a timely manner.

Instrument Storage

- 1. Instruments **MUST** be labeled with the student's name at all times. Many instruments look alike!
 - a. Luggage tags
 - b. Painter's tape
- 2. Students are expected to bring instruments to their regular classroom each morning upon arrival to school. Please ensure all instruments are labeled with the student's name!
- 3. Instruments are expected to go home
 - a. 5th and 6th grade instruments should go home 2-3x per week. It is required that they go home on each weekend and holiday from school. This is important for reinforcement of skills.

Concert and Festival Attire

- 1. Concert or Festival Attire
 - a. 5th grade
 - i. Sunrise Band t-shirt, jeans or black pants, sneakers.
 - ii. Your shirts **MUST** be tucked in!
 - b. 6th grade
 - i. Sunrise Band t-shirt, jeans or black pants, sneakers.
 - ii. Your shirts **MUST** be tucked in!
 - c. Not Permitted
 - i. Leggings, *skirts shorter than knee length when seated*, high heels, spaghetti straps or tank tops. The shoulders must be covered.
 - ii. Be aware that leggings are not permitted per DVUSD fine arts guidelines.
 - iii. Do take time to check skirt lengths. Many instruments require certain posture that dictate a longer skirt length.

2. Failure to comply with these guidelines could result in the lowering of performance grade, as this is an ensemble expectation, and possible removal from the performance.
 - a. Uniforms for band are similar to uniforms for sports teams, military groups, etc. They are important for all performances.

Grading

1. The band director will follow all DVUSD grading practices as laid out in the PRAG handbook:
 - a. DVUSD Grading Scale for grades 3-12

A 100-90%	B 89-80%	C 79-70%	D 69-60%	F 59-0%
Highly Proficient	Proficient		Partially Proficient	Minimally Proficient

- b. Three categories of Grades
 - i. Assessment - 80% of grade
 - ii. Coursework - 20% of grade
 - iii. Practice - 0% of grade
2. Playing Tests
 - a. Testing will be either live in class, and/or submitted via Canvas or Music First
 - i. Oftentimes (not always), the director will offer assignments to be completed via Canvas or Music First. Those not completing the assignment will have to play live in class to complete the assignment by the given due date.
 - b. Assignments are due at the deadline given. Students will have 1-2 weeks' notice of any playing assignments. Any assignments not submitted by the deadline risk a 49% (5th/6th). Students will have one additional week to submit any missing assignment (grace period) to change the failing grade. This equates to about 2-3 weeks from the time of assignment being given to the absolute last chance. The extra time is given to account for: illness, travel, injury, etc.
 - i. Assessments will not be graded after the grace period and will stay a failing grade in the gradebook.
 - ii. Skills in band build upon prior knowledge. It is important students are showing the skill and receiving feedback before moving to the next skill.
3. Performances
 - a. Concerts, Festivals, Assessments
 - b. Concerts are one-time events that cannot be recreated. As such, attendance at all performances is critical to meet classroom curriculum and expectations. Alternate assignments will only be available IF an absence request form is approved. The alternate assignment is to be typed, 2 pages, and research-based (to be assigned by the director).
 - i. Alternate assignments are only worth up to 75% of the points possible for the concert performance. The performance is a curriculum requirement and cannot be recreated.
 - c. Assessed items include:
 - i. Audience Etiquette – behavior as an audience member
 - ii. Stage Etiquette – behavior as a performer
 - iii. Timeliness – at venue at (or before) the designated call time
 - iv. Dress Code – in proper dress code (see “attire”)
 - v. Performance – their rating of their personal performance during the concert

Practice

1. Students are expected to take instruments home on a daily basis.
2. Students should be prepared for class and playing assessments.
3. Students are encouraged to practice *at least 6 days a week!*
 - a. Students in 5-6th grade are recommended 15-20 minutes per day.

Instruments

1. It is expected that all students provide their own accessories and materials for participation in band at Sunrise. This includes the required method book for their instrument.
2. If there are any issues regarding instrument rental or acquiring materials, please contact Dr. Fattu immediately to find solutions.
3. There are limited school-owned instruments available for student use. This includes the bigger, more expensive instruments (tuba, baritone saxophone, euphonium, etc.), as well as beginner instruments (clarinet, flute, trumpet, etc.)
 - a. Borrowing a school-owned instrument are subject to the completion of a rental contract.
 - b. Instruments must be returned at the end of the school year cleaned and in working condition.
 - i. Any instrument damaged beyond normal wear and tear is to be paid for by the person borrowing it. This includes pad replacement, broken cork, dents in any brass.
 - ii. Brass cleaning fee may be requested from the family for brass instruments needing a cleaning at the end of the year. Cleaning fees are as follows: Trumpet - \$80; Horn - \$160; Trombone - \$160; Euphonium - \$160; Tuba - \$200.
 - c. Rental contracts may be revoked at the discretion of the band director based on treatment of the instrument, its case, and/or other band property.
 - i. This does not release the student from the band program!
4. Percussion Equipment -- these are school owned percussion instruments that must remain at school to be used by multiple students. They include, but are not limited to: snare drums, bells, xylophone, marimba, timpani, cymbals, all tripod stands, all auxiliary equipment.
 - a. It is expected all students will treat this equipment with care.
 - b. Non-percussion students are NOT permitted to touch any percussion instruments unless the teacher asks for assistance moving the instrument.
 - c. Damages to these instruments can be costly!
 - i. Students who break an instrument through neglect or incorrect handling will be held responsible for the costs of the damages.
 - ii. In the event that multiple students cause damages, the cost of repairs will be divided equally among those involved.
 - d. Accidental damages will be treated at the teacher's discretion. Circumstances surrounding the incident, age of the instrument, and more will be taken into account.

Instrument Purchases

If a student is looking into buying a new or used instrument, it is highly recommended that parents talk with Dr. Fattu or a private instructor prior to that purchase. There are many “knock-off” brands on the market. These brands are going to cost more in maintenance in the long run. They are typically made with less expensive materials, resulting in many breaks, bends, and maintenance. Avoid eBay, Craigslist, Facebook Marketplace unless you know exactly what you are looking for. The best place to check first is the local instrument repair shop. We have 3 in the area: Milano Music, Music & Arts, and Allegro Music. These places will be honest with what they have in stock and the quality you will be getting. Please remember... “If a deal is ‘too good to be true,’ then it probably is...”

Please stick to traditional colors: black clarinets, brass saxophones, silver flutes, silver/brass trumpets, etc. Make sure the instrument you are buying is music educator approved! This will save you a headache down the road!

<u>Flute</u> : Jupiter, Pearl, Yamaha	<u>Oboe</u> : Fox Renard, Loree, Yamaha
<u>Clarinet</u> : Backun, Buffet, Jupiter, Selmer	<u>Saxophone</u> : Cannonball, Yamaha, Eastman
<u>Trumpet</u> : Bach, Eastman, Yamaha	<u>French Horn</u> : Conn-Selmer, Yamaha, Eastman
<u>Trombone</u> : Yamaha, Conn, Eastman	<u>Euphonium</u> : Eastman, Yamaha

Instrument Rental and Repairs

Students must have instruments in good, working order for them to be the most successful in the class. This section of our handbook will discuss Rentals and Repairs.

1. Instrument Rentals

- a. You may rent from whomever you choose – Milano Music, Music & Arts, Allegro Music, Boogie Music, Rhapsody Music, or online vendors.
- b. Milano Music is currently our preferred vendor. Their education representative provides:
 - i. Regular, weekly visits to the school
 - ii. Families may purchase supplies and have them added to your rental account and delivered directly to the school
 - iii. Need something? E-mail me what you need, send in the cash or check, and I'll give that to Milano Music for you! No leaving the house required.
- c. Why should you rent?
 - i. Instrument insurance covers breaks and loss.
 1. The companies do offer you insurance that will cover any breaks to the instrument. They will provide a loaner or trade out the instrument for a working one should any issues arise.
 2. Instruments are able to be switched for different instruments (i.e. a student changing from clarinet to saxophone). There may be a change in price, but the swap can be done at Sunrise with no inconvenience to you.
 3. Equity is earned through monthly purchases.
 - a. It is a small percentage of each monthly payment, but by the end of 8th grade, parents typically have over \$500 in equity that can go toward the purchase of a new instrument.
 - b. Don't need an instrument for yourself? You can use your equity and then donate an instrument to Sunrise for students to use in the future. Please talk with Dr. Fattu should you need help with this.
 4. Loss is covered.
 - a. On the very rare occasion, instruments get lost. Should something happen to the instrument, a rental is covered by insurance. We simply need to file a police report for the lost item and we can get a replacement!
 5. Should your child lose interest, you are not "stuck" with a purchased instrument.
- d. Upgrade your instrument
 - i. Around the 7th grade year, students should begin moving into "step-up" instruments and mouthpieces. These instruments are designed for an intermediate player to put more air through and produce better tone quality. Please consider making that change to help your

child sound even better on their instruments!

2. Instrument Repairs

- a. It is imperative your child's instrument is in working condition for them to be successful.
- b. There are minute repairs that I may be able to adjust at the conclusion of class. If your child knows of an issue, please have them ask at the beginning of a class period or at the end, as those are the most feasible times for me to inspect the instrument.
- c. Personally Owned Instruments
 - i. Must be brought into a shop on your own. There may be no back up instrument available for student use.
- d. School Owned Instruments
 - i. Sunrise will cover normal wear and tear, per the DVUSD rental agreement.
 - ii. Dents, breaks, bends, etc. are to be covered by the parent. You may pay via cash, check, or credit card.
 - iii. School instruments are sent to either Milano Music or another local music store for all repairs.
- e. Rentals
 - i. Will be swapped with another instrument upon Milano Music weekly visits (only applies to rentals through Milano Music)
 - ii. All other companies, you will need to take the damaged instrument to their location and do the swap on your own.
- f. Companies for repairs
 - i. Milano Music – www.milanomusic.com – 38 W Main St, Mesa, AZ 85201
 - ii. Music and Arts – www.musicarts.com – 5350 W Bell Rd, Suite 132, Glendale, AZ 85308
 - iii. Allegro Music – www.allegromusicaz.com – 8385 W Deer Valley Rd, Suite 106, Peoria, AZ 85382

Donations & Help

1. Donations

- a. Classroom materials
 - i. Tissues, Hand Sanitizer, Lysol Wipes, Pencils
- b. New or Used Instruments
- c. Tax Credit
 - i. Funds after school lessons, festival fees, clinician fees, transportation, etc.
 - ii. Up to \$400 per family (married/file jointly) or \$200 (single/file separately).

2. Help - when applicable

- a. Chaperone Trips – Must be DVUSD Volunteer Trained
- b. Fundraiser help
 - i. Participate!
 - ii. Encourage others to participate.
 - iii. Get involved... do you have a new idea? I'd love to hear it!

3. Fundraisers

- a. Donors Choose - In an effort to better show you where your funds are going, we will be using more Donors Choose. This site offers you the chance to donate directly to our band for specific items needed.
- b. Profit Share Nights - These will be open to the entire school and will be ways for the community to come together while assisting the band program.

- c. Selected events throughout the year.

Communication

It is very important to stay informed and up to date with all the various activities going on in the band program. E-mail is the most efficient way to get in touch with me regarding our students, events, or activities.

Email: david.fattu@dvusd.org

Website: <https://www.dvusd.org/domain/746>