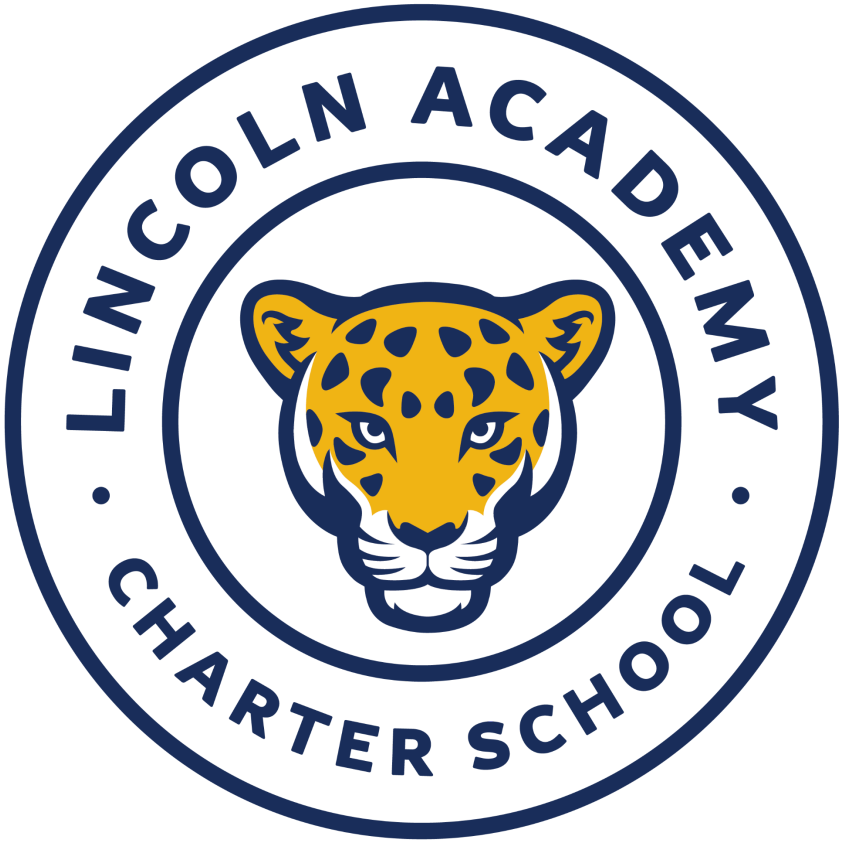


Band Handbook

2026-2027 School Year
Directed by Mrs. Newsom

Lincoln Academy Charter School
7180 Oak Street, Arvada, CO 80004

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Welcome!

Welcome, and congratulations on becoming part of the Lincoln Academy Band program! You have made the first step in becoming a great musician. Throughout this class, you will learn how to read music, play an instrument, and participate in a performing ensemble.

In order for our band to be successful and function smoothly, it is necessary to have regulations, with a fair and firm method of having them respected. These rules and regulations are in place as a means of protecting each member and should bring us closer to becoming a marvelous performing ensemble and band community. Please keep in mind that Lincoln Academy Band is a year long course and switches out of the class throughout the year will only be made in extenuating circumstances.

The purpose of this handbook is to help guide you and your parents/guardians through the many aspects of the Lincoln Academy Band program. Please use this guide whenever you have a question, or feel free to contact me via email at: jessie.newsom@jeffcoschools.us

I look forward to working with your child in the Lincoln Academy Band program!

~Jessie Newsom

Music Teacher/Instrumental Music Director

Lincoln Academy Charter School

Remind Communications

Mrs. Newsom uses the Remind platform to send reminders to families about upcoming dress rehearsals, performances and reminders on which days to bring instruments after long breaks. Please sign up using the Remind link in the Handbook Form.

Grading Policy

Grades are based on participation, preparation, progress, and positive effort. Good practice habits at home will transfer over to successful rehearsals, and will ultimately improve your overall grade.

Participation/Preparation ● Participation/Behavior during class ● Having all required materials ● Practice Logs ● Assignments ● Etc.	**50%**
Playing Tests ● Playing tests	**30 %**
Performance ● Being on time ● Proper attire ● Appropriate behavior	**20 %**
Total	**100%**

Late/Redo Assignments

Students in Band will have the opportunity to redo Playing Tests if they do not pass on their first attempt. This is encouraged and students will be allowed to retake their Playing Test two times for up to full credit. All redo attempts must be completed no later than two weeks after the initial Playing Test date. This can be done via video submitted by email or Google Classroom in 7th/8th Grade.

As pursuant to school policy, students who are absent will have two class periods to turn in work from each day they are absent (e.g., if a student misses one day of class, they will have two class periods to turn in their late work).

Rehearsals:

- Students must attend all assigned rehearsals (class time, and after school dress rehearsals)
- Students must arrive on time for all rehearsals
- Students must bring all required material to every rehearsal (method book, instrument, instrument accessories, pencil)
- Students must have their instrument, as well as all necessary items for the instrument (ex. Multiple reeds, mouthpiece, valve oil, drum sticks, bow, shoulder rest etc.)
- Students' participation is required. A performing ensemble can only be successful when all members are putting forth their best effort.

Concert and Dress Rehearsal Dates 26-27 School Year

Concert and Dress Rehearsal attendance/appropriate participation is required and a significant aspect to the trimester's grade. Please also see "Concert Make Up policy" in the event of excused absences or emergencies.

02/17/27 - Dress Rehearsal

- 5th/6th Beginning Band (3:15 - 4:00pm) **Students must be picked up by 4:05 as there will not be additional adult supervision
- 5th/6th Intermediate Band (4:15 - 5:00pm) **Students must be picked up by 5:05 as there will not be additional adult supervision
- 7th/8th Advanced Band (5:15-6:00pm) **Students must be picked up by 6:05 as there will not be additional adult supervision

02/18/27 - Concert

* Students should arrive no later than 5:30, and audience members will be allowed in at 5:55.

- All bands will perform. Please plan to stay for the entire performance.

5/12/27 - Dress Rehearsal

- 5th/6th Beginning Band (3:15 - 4:00pm) **Students must be picked up by 4:05 as there will not be additional adult supervision
- 5th/6th Intermediate Band (4:15 - 5:00pm) **Students must be picked up by 5:05 as there will not be additional adult supervision
- 7th/8th Advanced Band (5:15-6:00pm) **Students must be picked up by 6:05 as there will not be additional adult supervision

5/13/27 - Concert

* Students should arrive no later than 5:30, and audience members will be allowed in at 5:55.

- All bands will perform. Please plan to stay for the entire performance.

Materials

Students are required to bring all required materials to class time, rehearsals, concerts and lessons. Below is a list of all required materials for all band members, grades 5-8.

- **Instrument**
  - Students are encouraged to rent or purchase their own instrument.

*School instruments are available and prioritized for students with financial need. All other instruments will be checked out to students selected by lottery. Please see more information on page 8.

  - Instrument accessories (listed on instrument choice sheet)

- **Method Book**
  - Binder with necessary materials provided by the School. - A small fee will be placed on your child's account.

- **Sheet Music – provided by the school**
  - Students are required to bring all sheet music to every rehearsal (provided by teacher)
  - Students are required to return ALL sheet music after each concert. Students will be held financially responsible for any missing or damaged music.
  - It is highly recommended that students keep all music in the binder provided.

- **Pencil**
  - Students are required to bring a pencil (not pen, marker, crayon etc.) to every rehearsal. There will be many times during rehearsal where changes will be made in the music, and students need to write down changes to help them remember. It is NOT okay to write in pen on any sheet music.

Material Checks will take place throughout the trimester. These will partially account for the Participation and Preparation aspect of the students' grade.

Concert Dress Code

Concerts are very important events for all students, therefore it is important to present ourselves in a professional manner. Please read the concert dress code for all concerts below.

All students are expected to wear all black for concerts. More clarification below.

Females:

- Long black slacks (no jeans or holes in pants)

OR

- Long black skirt (must cover knees)

AND

- Black dress shirt with a collar, ties are fine ☺ (no tank tops or t-shirts)

OR

- Long black dress (must cover knees, must cover shoulders)

AND

- Black Dress shoes

Males:

- Long black slacks (no jeans or holes in pants)

AND

- Black dress shirt with a collar, ties are fine ☺ (no tank tops or t-shirts)

AND

- Black dress shoes

** Black socks/stockings are required for all**
Concert Dress is rooted in tradition, and chosen to help honor students' hard work throughout the performance preparation process.

Performance/Dress Rehearsal Conflict Policy

If a student has a foreseeable conflict with an after-school performance or dress rehearsal date, the student is to follow the conflict policy outlined below.

1. Mrs. Newsom must be notified by email no later than one month before the performance to begin the problem-solving process. Parents and Mrs. Newsom will work together to find a solution.
2. In the event a solution cannot be found, the student will complete an in-depth writing assignment. This alternative performance assignment will take the place of the performance grade and is to be turned in on the date specified on the assignment.
3. In the event of an emergency, please reach out to Mrs. Newsom directly and let her know about the situation as soon as possible. Students may be asked to complete the alternate assignment even in the event of an unforeseen circumstance.

Instrument/Material Information

Lincoln Academy Charter School has a limited supply of school owned instruments that will be checked out to students on a lottery basis.

*School instruments are available and prioritized for students with great financial need. All other instruments will be checked out to students as selected by lottery.

All students using a school owned instrument will be assessed a $125 fee for use during the school year. This fee covers the routine maintenance of school instruments. The school owned instrument will not leave the music room until the fee is paid in full. Families are responsible for the cost of repair and/or replacement of any school owned instrument checked out to them, if necessary. If you would like to be entered into the lottery to use a school owned instrument, please fill out this form ASAP, and email Mrs. Newsom stating you have filled it out. Families will be notified whether they were selected or not for use of a school owned instrument.

Renting an instrument is a great option for families who are not ready to commit to purchasing an instrument. If you have never rented an instrument and are just starting, listed below are the music vendors that work directly with Lincoln Academy Charter School.

Students will receive flyers with information on how to rent an instrument. Both stores are incredibly helpful, please feel free to contact them directly with any rental/purchasing questions.

Flesher Hinton Music:

- 5890 W 44th Ave, Wheat Ridge, CO 80212
- (303) 433-8891
- https://flesherhinton.com/

Music and Arts:

- 7350 W. 88th Ave Suite B, Westminster, CO
- 303-427-0601
- Stores.musicarts.com

Sweetwater:

- Online only - will ship to home address
- https://www.sweetwater.com/instrument-rentals/rent

Instrument Care

The proper care of instruments will prolong the life and quality of the instruments. Instrument repair can be extremely expensive, usually with

proper care, this can be avoided. Students will learn the proper care of their specific instrument at the beginning of the year.

- All instruments must be cleaned and returned to their corresponding case after every use.
- All instrument cases must have a name tag on it with the student's name.
- Instruments are recommended to be stored in their school locker if they fit, or in the music room (if they will not safely fit in the student's locker) for safekeeping.

Music Room Rules (Room B333)

Students will be expected to follow the rules that are listed below. Above all, please be respectful of the band room, school property, and other student's property.

Be Safe

- Keep instruments/equipment, yourself and your classmates safe.

Be Responsible

- Do your work, participate in appropriate ways, and only play when it is your turn.

Be Respectful

- Be respectful of equipment, teachers, and other students' learning.

Parents of students whose behavior has been deemed as disruptive, disrespectful, unsafe, etc. will be contacted. In the event that these behaviors persist, administration will be communicated with and a behavior plan will be set in place.

- NO GUM!!!!
- No food
- Bottled water is okay to bring in the band room (as long as there is a lid on the container). NO pop/juice/tea/etc…
- No cell phones – as pursuant to school rules.

ASH Hours

All ASH times are by appointment only. Please email Mrs. Newsom at jessie.newsom@jeffcoschools.us to set up an ASH time.

Fill Out the Handbook Signature Form by scanning the QR Code Below.

Please fill this out no later than 11/20/26 for full credit.

Please fill out the form for each student participating in band.

https://forms.gle/n1VrEZiuZeZ516h5A

