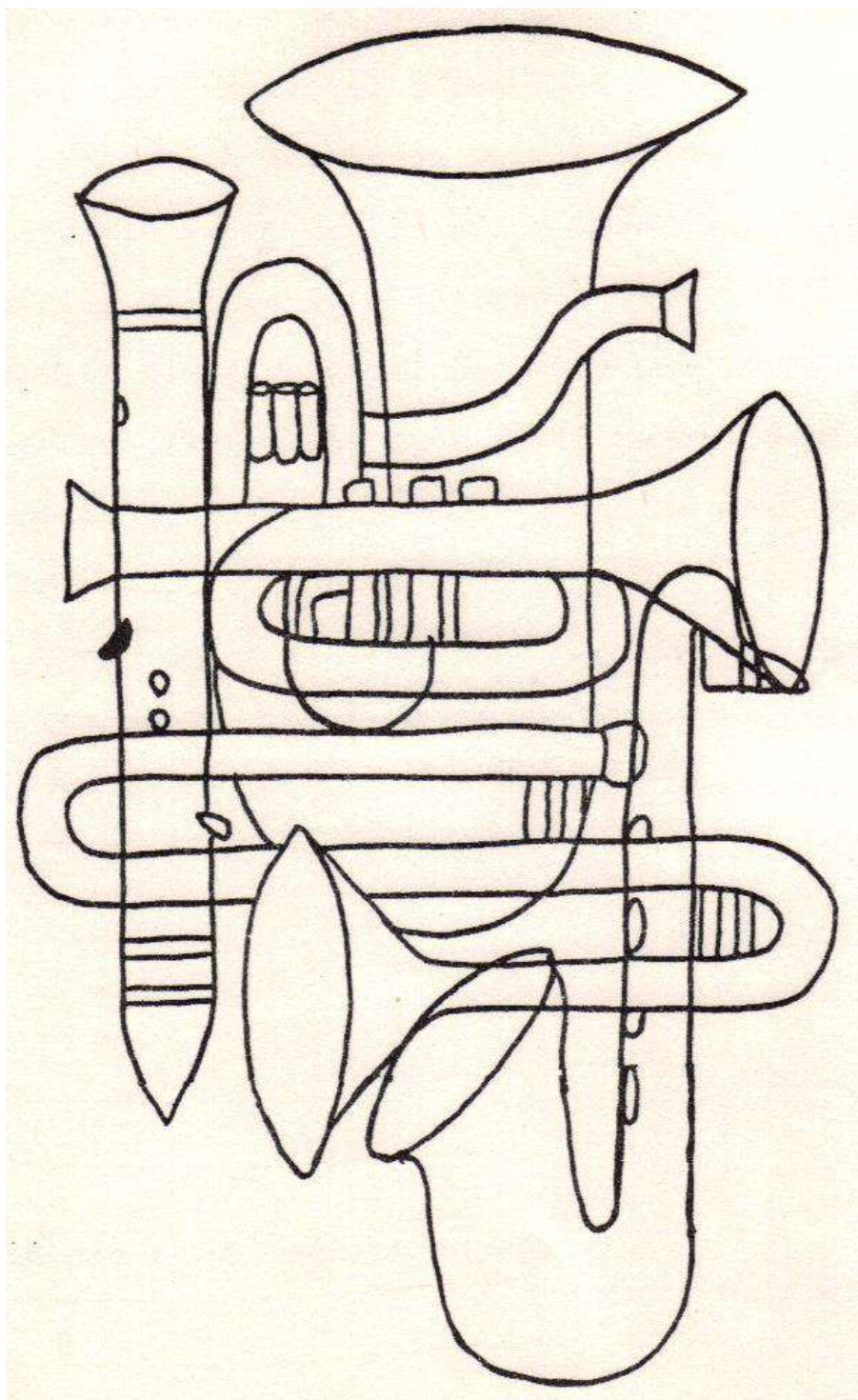


# Julington Creek Elementary School Band Handbook



**Band Director: Mrs. Kathe Isabelle**

Dear Parents,

August 16, 2021

I hope you made lots of cherished memories with your family over the summer! ☺ I am looking forward to introducing band instruments to our 4th / 5<sup>th</sup> graders again! ☺ The children do not need any prior experience on a band instrument to be in band. The instruments that will be offered are flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. These instruments may be rented at a music store. I highly recommend Rhapsody Music which is located at 1820 State Rd. 13 Unit 9 St. Johns Phone Number: (904) 479-4272. Please do NOT buy an instrument from places like Walmart or Amazon because they are impossible to repair if they break!!!

I am going to give the students who are in band, the “Selmer Music Guidance Survey,” on **Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**. The survey gives a good indication about which instrument is best suited for each student. I will also take into consideration each child’s 3 choices of instruments, height, hand size, arm length, teeth structure, and most of all love of a certain instrument! ☺ The survey is composed of four areas: Pitch Recognition, Chord, Melody, and Rhythm Memory. In addition to the survey, I will also spend 1 day having the children try-out the 3 instruments they have listed as choices. This evaluation along with the other methods listed above, will be a great indicator of which instrument each child will be best suited for. **Please know that a balanced instrumentation is necessary for a full band experience.** For example, for fifty wind instruments, a maximum of three percussionists would make a balanced sound. I am going to have a **“Band Night” on Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:30 -8:00 P.M. in the cafeteria in which there will be representatives from Rhapsody Music to discuss the rental of instruments and set-up rental agreements with you. It will save you a trip to the store, and a long wait in line!!! I will also go over the band program briefly with you as well.** There is more information concerning “Band Night” later in the handbook. After reading through the remainder of the handbook, please complete the on-line form titled: “Beginning Band Information Form” on my website: <http://teachers.stjohns.k12.fl.us/isabelle-k> by **Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**.

Please have your son/daughter return the first “Band Fee” payment of \$15.00 to me by, **Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**. If paying by check, please address it to **JCE**.

Thank You! Musically,

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Mrs. Kathe Isabelle – Band Director

# **My Philosophy of Teaching Band**

Playing an instrument develops a child's self-confidence, reading skills, aural skills, and coordination. When a child creates his/her first sounds on an instrument, followed by the first few songs, the child feels that he/she has accomplished something, and feels good about it. Some children adapt quickly to an instrument, while others develop a little slower, but all children should be able to look back and say playing an instrument was a fun learning experience.

Reading skills are developed when a child plays an instrument. Music is read the same exact way in which words on a page are read, except that music is written in a different way.

Aural skills are also developed when one learns how to play an instrument. A person learns how each pitch needs to sound so that when he/she reads a piece of music, he will recognize when wrong notes are played.

When a person plays an instrument, his/her hands and fingers move in time to the music, which helps in the development of a child's coordination. I hope to create a fun learning environment so that with your support your child will find band to be a rewarding experience!

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Mrs. K. Isabelle

“Music is the universal language of mankind...”

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

### Rehearsal Schedule

**\*\*\*All rehearsals will begin at 7:30 A.M. and end at 8:10 A.M. Monday through Thursday.**

**Transportation will need to be provided by the parents. Please enter the school's parking lot at the "Busses Only" entrance, and please drop off your child at the bus drop off.**

**Rehearsals will be held in the Music Room, and I will have the exterior door opened each morning for the children to enter. PLEASE be sure your child arrives on time, allowing time to get his/her chair/stand set-up, put the instrument together, and possibly put a reed on!**

**\*\*\*I would allow an extra 5 to 10 minutes each morning for your child to be prepared to play in his/her seat at 7:30. Arriving at 7:20 – 7:25 is strongly recommended. I only see the children twice a week, and I will need all the time I can with them for beautiful sounds to occur! ☺**

**\*\*\*I will need ALL the students to come on the following mornings for just the first week so I can introduce the instruments, take the Selmer Music Guidance Survey, and try-out their 3 choices of instruments. ☺**

**1) Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> – (7:30 – 8:10 Music Room) Demonstration of ALL the instruments**

**2) Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> – (7:30 – 8:10 Music Room) Selmer Music Guidance Survey**

**\*\*\* Please bring a pencil/eraser.**

**3) Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup> – (7:30 – 8:10 Jaguar Den) "Instrument Zoo" Play your 3 favorite instruments! ☺**

**\*\*\*The rehearsal schedule will be as follows every week starting on Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 – 8:10 in the Jaguar Den.**

**Mondays = Percussion**

**Tuesdays = Woodwinds (Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone)**

**Wednesdays = Brass (Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone)**

**Thursdays = Full Band ☺**

**\*\*\*When there is a Holiday or Planning / In-service Day on a sectional or full band day, I will move or combine a rehearsal if possible. I will communicate with you, and the students in advance as well.**

**\*\*\*Beginning the second semester, Thurs., January 6th, there will only be Full Band rehearsals, NO sectionals. Rehearsals will be held for the FULL band on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:30 – 8:10 A.M.**

## **Band Fee**

**“Band Fee” is an account that covers the expenses of the band that are listed for items such as below.**

- 1) Band shirt silkscreened T-Shirt that is part of the students’ uniform. – I will be ordering this.**
- 2) Band music**
- 3) Music stands**
- 4) Repair Kit**
- 5) Purchasing sound equipment as needed**

**“Band Fee” is \$45.00, and I have divided it into three payments.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Payment of \$15.00 – Friday, September 10th**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Payment of \$15.00 – Thursday, October 14th**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Payment of \$15.00 – Thursday, November 18th**

**\*\*\*Families that have more than one child participating in band, “buy one, get one half off” will apply! ☺ If your son/daughter is also going to participate in chorus, “Chorus Fee” for chorus is FREE, (should not be paid) only for band.**

**\*\*\*If there is a financial hardship, please let me know. No child should be left out for financial reasons.**

# **Materials Needed for Band Each Day**

**Instrument ☺**

**Music**

**Folder**

**Pencil ☺**

**Two GOOD reeds (clarinets / alto saxophones / tenor saxophones)**

**Hand Towel (Brass players only)**

**Cleaning supplies YES! ☺**

**Great, Positive Attitude, with a BIG Smile! ☺**

## **Uniform**

**1) Silkscreened T-Shirt that I will be ordering from O'Meara's Advertising Specialties so you do NOT need to shop for one. My goal is to have all the students look the same and alleviate you from having to shop! In addition to wearing this shirt for ALL the performances, the children may also wear this shirt to school on "School Spirit Day Friday's."**

**2) Solid navy (only) blue slacks (girls and boys)**  
**Stores sell out of these fast, so I would try to buy these as soon as possible!**

**\*\*\*Jeans are not permitted for any of the performances.**

**\*\*\*The slacks may be found at stores such as: Bealls, Walmart, Target, Belk, Dillards, Marshalls, TJ Maxx, Old Navy, JCPenneys Back to School Catalog.**

**3) Black shoes - girls and boys (NO sneakers/tennis shoes)**

**4) Navy (only) ankle socks for the girls**

**5) Navy (only) ankle or crew socks for the boys**

## Rules

**\*\*\* 5<sup>th</sup> graders who want to be a Safety Patrol AND participate in band, may not do both.**

- 1) Attend all rehearsals.

**Consequences:** Students who have more than 3 unexcused absences will be dismissed from band. I will notify the student's parent(s) after the second unexcused absence.

**Band does NOT interfere with the "Morning Show".**

Students may still be a part of the cast. \*\*\*ALL students are expected to complete their homework at home the night before, and NOT miss a band rehearsal to complete it. Doing so counts as an unexcused absence. Completing classwork for another teacher BEFORE 8:10 also counts as an unexcused absence.

- 2) Attend all performances.

**Consequence:** Students who miss one performance, and I have not received a note from a parent or guardian will be dismissed from band pending a discussion with the student's parent(s).

- 3) Wear the band uniform to all performances.

**Consequences:** **First Time:** Students who do not wear their band uniform will be asked to sit out of that performance, and their parent(s) will be notified.

**Second Time:** Students who do not wear their band uniform to more than one performance, will be dismissed from band.

- 4) Speak and act in a respectful manner.

**Consequences:** **First Time:** Warning

**Second Time:** Time Out – Notify parent(s) by letter that will need to be returned to Mrs. Isabelle the next day.

**Third Time:** Dismissal from band.

- 5) Have a "C" average in academics at the time of each performance.

Students, who this may affect, will not be allowed to perform due to School Board policy.

- 6) Keep all gum for lunch and recess.



## **Performances**

**\*\*\* These performances, dates, and times are TENTATIVE. I will send out an e-mail, and letter at least two weeks prior to each performance. Performances, dates/or times may be added and/ or deleted.**

**Thursday, December 9th: Holiday Concert in JCE's Cafeteria**

**6:30 P.M.**

**Friday Evening in February: "Ice Skating Party" (Jacksonville Ice)**

**Date (TBA) / Time: 7:00 – 9:00 P.M.**

**Saturday March or April: JCE's Family Fun Day! ☺ Time – 11:30 A.M.**

**Weeknight in March: River Garden Hebrew Home – 6:30 P.M.**

**Tuesday, May 3rd: Spring Concert in JCE's Cafeteria**

**6:30 P.M.**

**\*\*\*There may be other performances throughout the year as the children progress in their musical ability. ☺ I will send home a letter/permission slip at least two weeks in advance of each performance. All the students will be required to make-up all schoolwork that is missed due to a performance.**

## **Band Contract**

**Student Commitment:** I have read the 2021 - 2022 Julington Creek Elementary School Band Handbook information. By signing this form, I agree to the following guidelines:

- 1) I am making a one-year commitment. I will not “drop out” before the end of the school year.
- 2) I will arrive on time for rehearsals and performances.
- 3) I will listen for directions and follow the conductor.
- 4) I will attend all rehearsals and performances unless excused for illness.
- 5) I will wear the required performance uniform as required for the performances.
- 6) I will follow the rules as stated in the handbook.
- 7) I WILL ENJOY MYSELF! ☺

**Parent Commitment:** I have read the 2021 - 2022 Julington Creek Elementary School Band Handbook information. By signing this form, I agree to the following guidelines:

- 1) I understand this is a one-year commitment.
- 2) I will have my child at rehearsals and performances on time.
- 3) I will check the band folder for letters, school newsletters, and e-mail for information regarding rehearsals and performances.
- 4) I will have my child attend all rehearsals and performances unless excused for illness. In the case of illness or emergency, I will provide written notification as soon as possible.
- 5) I will provide my child with the required performance uniform for the performances.
- 6) I will encourage my child to enjoy the rehearsals and the performances.
- 7) I will review and discuss the rules with my child.

I have gone through this handbook with my child and feel we both understand the commitment being made to the Julington Creek Elementary School Band. ☺

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**Student Signature**

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**Parent Signature**

## Student/Parent Information

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Homeroom Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Names:**      **Mom:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dad:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's E-Mail Address:** PLEASE print clearly. ☺ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*This address is very important because I plan on communicating this way in addition to sending home letters.**

**Work Numbers:**      **Mom:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dad:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approved Emergency Name and Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to be a chaperone on a band field trip (performance). Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_**

**\*\*\*Please verify if BOTH mom and dad would like to chaperone.**

**\*\*\*Be sure to complete the "Volunteer Application Form" ASAP. \*\*\***

**I would like to help serve refreshments at a band performance. Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_**

**\*\*\*Be sure to complete the District's "Volunteer Application Form" from the School Board Website. \*\*\***

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# Band Shirt Sizes

Please place a ✓ on the line next to the correct size. The sizes run SMALL!  
Parents do not need to order (buy) a shirt to be a chaperone. You may wear whatever you want! ☺

## Children's Sizes:

\_\_\_\_\_ Small (6 - 8)

\_\_\_\_\_ Medium (10 - 12)

\_\_\_\_\_ Large (14 - 16)

\_\_\_\_\_ X - Large (18 - 20)

## Adult Sizes:

\_\_\_\_\_ Small

\_\_\_\_\_ Medium

\_\_\_\_\_ Large

\_\_\_\_\_ X - Large

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name (only if buying a shirt) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*Please return this form to Mrs. Isabelle by **Friday, September 10th.**

## **Mrs. Isabelle's Volunteer Form**

**I would really love help in the following areas if you can spare some time! ☺\*\*\* If you would like to be a chaperone, you MUST complete the "Volunteer Application Form" that can be found on St. John's County's District website. This is a state requirement.**

**(Please check any activity you would like to help with, based on your interests and abilities.)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Coordinating parents to be chaperones for performances away from school.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Coordinating refreshments following the Thursday, December 9th performance.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Video Taping concerts / making copies of CD's and DVD's of concerts.**

**\*\*\*\*Please have your child return this sheet to me by Friday, September 10th. \*\*\***