

8th Grade Band Handbook 2019-20



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8th Grade Band

Prerequisite: 7th Grade Band

Purpose: To advance the learning of musical concepts such as rhythm, melody, harmony, timbre, expressive qualities, and life skills through a variety of performance opportunities on an instrument traditionally in the band family of instruments. To prepare students for the musical skills and professionalism required to perform in the 8th Grade Band.

Course Structure: 8th Grade Band is dedicated to the advancement of fundamental skills learned in the 6th and 7th band. The students will be performing publicly up to 5 times in this course. This course is co-curricular meaning that it requires some performance and/or rehearsal time outside of the school day. These rehearsals and performances are included in the grade. The graded components, discussed in more detail on the next page, are Performance, Objectives, Daily Participation & Preparation, Music Theory, and Quizzes.

Book: Tradition of Excellence Book 3(Green) Cost: \$12 for Woodwind/Brass Students, \$15 for Percussionists

Performances: *Dates and Times are subject to change* Check our website for current info. Also join the remind texting group for communication. Stay in tune with your email you provided at registration(parents) and school maryviller2.com emails(students)

5 Performances:

Friday, September 20th 6PM 8th graders perform with the HS Band at a Football Game

Friday, December 13th 6 PM Winter Band Concert @ MHS PAC

Thursday, March 5th 6PM MS Bands Concert @ MHS PAC

Monday, April 20th 6 PM Spring Band Concert @ Schneider PAC

Friday, May 1st 9:20am Performance time @ World of Fun Music Festival, tickets cost \$36

****Additional, optional performance opportunities are available to students should they desire, contact a Director.****

Equipment:

- ★ 1" 3-Ring Binder 5 Dividers for 3-ring binder Pencils (No ink allowed in band)
- ★ Uniform: MMS Band Polo(\$18), Khaki Pants, (Wore at all performances, Concerts & WOF)
- ★ Brass Players (Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba):
Mouthpiece Instrument Care Materials: valve oil, slide grease (trombones), cleaning snake, mouthpiece brush, polishing cloth, tuning slide grease
- ★ Woodwind Players (Flute, Clarinets, Saxophones, Oboes, Bassoons):
3 or more working reeds at all times (Recommended Brands: Rico, Vandoren)
Reed Case, Instrument Swab, Cork Grease (Except Flutes)
Cleaning/Tuning Rod (Flutes Only)
- ★ Percussionists: Concert Snare Sticks, Hard Rubber Mallets, Yarn Mallets, Practice Pad, Stick Bag (Highly Recommended)

Instrument Use Fee:

The instrument use fee is charged to students who check out a school instrument. School instruments are only available for the larger more expensive instruments necessary for a bands performance. The fee is \$75/year. Fee is due by September 27th. The use of a school instrument is a privilege.

Grading: Performance 200-400 points/quarter Daily Participation and Preparedness 225 points/quarter Objectives 200 points/quarter Music Theory 100 points/quarter Quizzes 100 points/quarter Final grade calculated as a percentage of total of points. A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F = 0-59%

- Performance – 200 points each, but may be given more or less value depending upon the value to the

educational process or significance to the community. Reflection and analysis of the performance as well as punctuality, preparedness, and uniform may be taken into account for the grade.

- **Daily Participation & Preparedness** – Each week 25 points (totaling 225 points per quarter) will be given for classroom participation and preparedness. Participation and preparedness are a vital aspect to this course. Participation includes attending class with a positive attitude and giving 100% to every task while not being a distraction to the learning of others. Preparedness includes having all necessary materials for class: instrument (reeds, mouthpieces, sticks, etc.), music, and pencil. Random checks for materials will occur.
- **Objectives** – The learning in music is cumulative over time. The assessment process will reflect that as well. 24 exercises from the book and technique exercises will be given at the beginning of the year. All objectives must be completed in order and are pass/fail only. They may be reattempted as many times as necessary. To complete an objective, the students must perform them at a level appropriate for their grade. This includes posture, steady pulse, tone quality, correct notes, correct rhythms, tempo and expressive elements designated in the music. They may be completed as quickly as the student can complete them (I have seen students complete the years' objectives in October!). The points for objectives are listed below. There will be designated days in class for them to be completed as well as weekly times after school where students may complete them. They will begin the each successive quarter where they finished the previous quarter. Grading objectives for each quarter will be based on their completion of objectives as follows:

- ★ Objectives 1-2 40 Pts Each Objectives 3-6 30 Pts Each On the last day of the quarter band directors will end objectives for the quarter @ 4:00 PM.
- ★ Music Theory - Each week bell work will be worth 10 pts. It is to be turned in to the box each Friday before they depart from class.
- ★ Quizzes - Playing quizzes will happen regularly and will be worth 20-30 pts. Playing quizzes will be short segments of music. Playing quizzes will be done in lieu of practice records. Home practice is expected and a student's preparedness will show. Occasionally written quizzes may be administered.

Help Sessions: Mr. Gilham and Mr. Wehmeyer make themselves available to help students on their instruments from 3:00-4:00 Monday-Thursday. The schedule does vary occasionally. This is a great time to get help for students struggling with objectives.

Behavior Basics:

- Be Safe
- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible

Classroom Procedures: Beginning of class: The students are to come to class and immediately get out the necessary equipment and begin warming up or practicing pass-offs. Outline and instructions for the class period will be on the board. We will begin playing no later than 3 minutes after the passing period. The universal symbol

for silence in class is two claps. Students may only purchase band supplies during passing periods, the first three minutes of the class period, and after school. Students will respect people and equipment. Students will transition between activities quickly and quietly. Students will leave the room as clean or cleaner than they found it.

Basic Supplies: We understand the difficulty in getting to the music store. The band resells materials such as reeds, valve oil, etc. The prices are similar to what they could be purchased at Palen's Music Center. Balances must be paid in full at the end of the school year for the grade card to be released.

Media Release: We want to publicize the achievements and successes of students in band program. We will use a variety of media to include, but not limited to, social media, newspapers, and websites to make the community aware of student achievement. If it is ever a danger to your student's welfare that their name or image be published in the media please contact the Middle School office and the band directors directly.

Communication: We communicate primarily through SIS(online grade book system) via email. Please ensure that your information is current up to date. Parents, you should have provided an email address when your student registered for school. Students emails will go to your maryviller2.com address. Email is always an effective way to reach us. See the next section for information on Remind communication.

Remind: This year we will continue using the Remind service to send out occasional reminders about things like: Objective days, due dates for fundraising, schedules, uniforms, etc.

To sign up for the 8th Grade Band Remind Group: Send a text to 81010, With the message: @MV8Band

We also have a remind group for our Band Boosters. Reminders about meetings are sent out through this group. To join the Band Booster Remind Group: Send a text to 81010, with the message: @mrvbndboost

MMS 8th Grade Band Handbook

Agreement 2019-20



I have read and understand all the policies set forth in the 8th Grade Band Handbook.

Student Signature, Date

Parent/Guardian Signature, Date

****This form is due back to Mr. Gilham or Mr. Wehmeyer by August 23rd.****