

MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND for 2011-2012

Mrs. Susan Karels—Instrumental Director

<http://sf007.k12.sd.us> (I do update my website☺)

General Information

This newsletter is being given to all Middle School band students in regard to the activities and policies of the Middle School Bands. Music is a challenge and reaching high levels of attainment are rewarding. Music students should try to achieve to the best of their abilities, as music cannot be a very gratifying experience for those that try to just get along. A real effort is needed to succeed to do the best of one's abilities. Please remember that band is an elective. That means the student has chosen this opportunity to express his/her musical self in a fun and creative way. If a student consistently fails to follow the stated guidelines, the student will be dismissed from the band. PLEASE CHECK MY WEBSITE DURING THE YEAR FOR MORE INFORMATION! <http://sf007.k12.sd.us>

Practice Time

Regular disciplined practice is needed. Practice guidelines are:

6th=60 minutes per week

7th=60 minutes per week

8th=60 minutes per week

These times are on a weekly basis. Students should complete their weekly practice time from one lesson to the next. Each student needs to determine the best day (s) for this to occur with their schedule. Students will have a weekly grade for this practice which also includes a parent signature. To qualify for the practice contest, the signature will be needed. The practice booklets will be given to the student at their first band lesson. We have full band rehearsals for just 30 minutes this year!

If Any Questions

Our instrumental music department is interested in having students achieve to the best of their ability and enjoy music in the process. We hope you, as parents, will lend your support. Questions or suggestions are welcome. Feel free to call, email, or stop to see the director. Times can be arranged to talk to parents.

Grading System

Grading scale: A 92-100% B 82-91% C 72-81% D 64-71% F below 64%

Full Band Rehearsals: 5 points per day (if you have your equipment and behave well). Points are lost by being tardy to class, not having your equipment and not behaving in an appropriate manner.

Performances: 100 points per concert, contest, or marching event. These are REQUIRED events. The ensemble works for months for each one, and even one person missing can cause serious problems. Please make sure the concerts are listed on your calendar NOW to prevent any conflicts.

Lessons/Practice Time: 40 points total each week. This grade is based on remembering your lesson time and having your instrument and music at the lesson! Practice times are checked at each lesson on your assignment page. There again will be an extra credit question in each edition.

Tests/Assignments: 10-50 points each. These will include scale tests, concert song tests, as well as an occasional written test or assignment.

TURN OVER PLEASE!

EXTRA CREDIT:

OPTION 1: 50 points for a performance outside of the school setting (church, family reunion)

- Mrs. Karels highly encourages this!!!! (once per 9 weeks)
- OPTION 2: 50 points for a composition written for your instrument (24 measures minimum)
- OPTION 3: 50 points for trying out for MS All State Band + 200 points for qualifying
- OPTION 4: 50 points for Concert Attendance at High School or other musical event—please bring signed program!

Musician of the Month

Each month during the school year one band student and one choir student in each grade will be chosen as a Musician of the Month. At the end of the year all the students' names will be placed in a hat and one name will be drawn. A prize will be given to this student. Please look for the musicians of the month bios in the MS concert programs.

Middle School All State Band

This March will mark the 13th annual Middle School All-State Band. Middle School students that are interested will submit an audition CD in December. Last year Milbank was honored to have Clara Reynen qualify for the All State Band. Music for the audition will be handed out at regular lessons. If students are interested, more than 60 minutes of practice per week will be needed!

Attachment #1-Band Calendar-tan: PLEASE HANG AT HOME!

The attached tan calendar is very important for our success all year long. **PLEASE POST THIS CALENDAR AND THEN GET THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR.** There are a few evening concerts and one Saturday event.

Attachment #2-Resale Prices-green: PLEASE HANG AT HOME!

Most things such as reeds (LaVoz brand is appropriate), oils, lesson books are your responsibility. These can be purchased at the Bandroom but must be paid for before they are given to the student. You will receive an envelope (read carefully) to submit the payment. You can purchase items needed at any music store. Planning ahead will be a must in this area!!! A green price list is attached to this newsletter! Students may split a box of reeds with another student. Prior to ordering, I must have the total cost of the item.

Attachment #3-Parent Report Form-blue: PLEASE RETURN BY AUGUST 26!

Each parent must fill this out and return by AUGUST 26!!!

Attachment #4-Band Information Form-orange: PLEASE RETURN BY AUGUST 26 for 6th and new students only!

For Mrs. Karels file!

Attachment #5-Music Booster Form-yellow/small green: PLEASE RETURN IF YOU CAN HELP

Only fill out one per family! Your help is greatly appreciated.

SINCERELY,
Mrs. Susan Karels
High School--(605) 432-5546 (ext. 134) and Susan.Karels@k12.sd.us (school)

MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

PARENT REPORT FORM

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO MRS. KARELS BY 8:15AM ON
AUGUST 26!!!**

I have read the attached newsletter and calendar of events. I understand its contents and will help to support the practice of my son/or daughter at home.

Lesson Times: Check the appropriate grade & date/time that the lesson will be offered. Please check all possible times THAT WILL WORK for the lesson. The lesson schedule will be completed by the end of the day August 26—so this form must be returned before that time!!! All lessons will be a weekly private 10 minute lesson. **WITH THE BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL LESSONS—IT IS CRITICAL THAT THE STUDENT IS ON TIME (ex: keep in mind if eating school breakfast). I have been assigned 6th computer this year so I will probably have to double up students for lessons to accommodate everyone.**

Middle School 6th Graders

PLEASE CHECK AT LEAST 4 TIMES THAT WILL WORK!

Tuesday Lesson Times:

____ 7:25am	____ 7:35	____ 7:45	____ 7:55	____ 8:05	____ 8:15
____ 8:25	____ 8:35	____ 8:45	____ 8:55	____ 9:05	____ 9:15
____ 9:25	____ 9:35	____ 9:45	____ 9:55	____ 10:05	____ 10:15
____ 3:15	____ 3:25	____ 3:35			

St. Lawrence 6th Graders:

Mrs. Karels will be at St. Lawrence on Wednesday morning from 8:30-10:00. Mrs. Rausch & Mrs. Karels will determine the lesson schedule. Times will be flexible if they need to get changed!

7th Graders

PLEASE CHECK AT LEAST 4 TIMES THAT WILL WORK!

Monday Lesson Times:

____ 7:25am	____ 7:35	____ 7:45	____ 7:55	____ 8:05	____ 8:15
____ 8:25	____ 8:35	____ 8:45	____ 8:55	____ 9:05	____ 9:15
____ 9:25	____ 9:35	____ 9:45	____ 9:55	____ 10:05	____ 10:15
____ 10:25	____ 10:35	____ 3:15	____ 3:25	____ 3:35	

Wednesday Lesson Times:

____ 7:25am	____ 7:35	____ 7:45	____ 7:55	____ 8:05	____ 8:15
____ 10:00	____ 10:10	____ 10:20	____ 10:30	____ 10:40	____ 10:50
____ 3:15pm	____ 3:25	____ 3:35			

(TURN OVER PLEASE!!!!!!)

8th Graders

PLEASE CHECK AT LEAST 4 TIMES THAT WILL WORK! I may double up some students.

Thursday Lesson Times:

_____ 7:25am	_____ 7:35	_____ 7:45	_____ 7:55	_____ 8:05	_____ 8:15
_____ 8:25	_____ 8:35	_____ 8:45	_____ 8:55	_____ 9:05	_____ 9:15
_____ 9:25	_____ 9:35	_____ 9:45	_____ 9:55	_____ 10:05	_____ 10:15
_____ 10:25	_____ 10:35	_____ 3:15	_____ 3:25	_____ 3:35	

Friday Lesson Times:

_____ 7:25am	_____ 7:35	_____ 7:45	_____ 7:55	_____ 8:05	_____ 8:15
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OTHER:

_____ I have interest in submitting an audition tape for the All State Band. Students must be on (at least) page 35 in their lesson book (Essential Elements 2000)

_____ I have interest in a MS Jazz Band (grades 7 & 8)—looking for guitar, bass guitar, piano, and keyboard players for this (this would be for 2nd/or 3rd quarter); P.S. You need to know HOW to play guitar!

_____ Homeroom Teacher _____ Parent E-Mail

RESALE ITEMS NEEDED—Please send money to cover. Items are ordered on Monday & delivered on Tuesdays! Please see green sheet for prices!

Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Signature