

Tamanend Middle School 8th Grade Concert Band

Expectations and Responsibilities Tamanend Band Students

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Welcome back! I hope your summer vacation finds you energized and ready for another exciting year of music making. I plan to make this year rewarding, challenging, productive, and of the utmost, FUN. Below are listed expectations and responsibilities for all band students, which are essential in making this year run as smooth as possible. Read through this paper thoroughly with your parents. Make sure you understand what is expected of you; be sure your parents know what is expected of you. If you or your parents have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

There is nothing listed below that is expected of you that is beyond reason. I will do my best to lead by example through demonstrating honesty, integrity, courtesy, fairness, consistency, caring, and respect. By following these few guidelines, you will help in making our class time both valuable and fun.

Course Expectations:

Each student is expected to:

- A. Arrive to class on time with your instrument, music folder with music enclosed (these will be provided), and pencil (which each student will need to provide).
- B. Attend all pre-announced scheduled rehearsals and performances; this includes all *after-school rehearsals* held until 4:00, *parades* and *concerts*. After-school rehearsals will be announced several weeks prior to the first rehearsal to ensure pre-planned pick-up or carpool plans for the students.
- C. Practice on a regular basis outside of class *when you feel you need it*. Students will also be expected to take their instruments home over long-weekends and holidays.
- D. Take care of YOUR OWN instrument; do not attempt to handle/play anyone else's instrument but your own!!
- E. Treat others the way you would like to be treated; courtesy and respect are a must.
- F. Come to class willing to learn and use your time wisely.

Responsibilities of the Students:

I. Equipment

- A. Have your instrument labeled (I.D. Tag or masking tape on your instrument case) with your first and last name and band period printed clearly on it. Again, masking tape can be used if you have lost your tag.
- B. Maintain proper care of your instrument. Notify Mr. Werner **as soon as a problem arises**; do not wait and potentially make the problem worse.
- C. Return all instruments, mallets/sticks, and music folders to their proper "homes" at the end of each class period and after-school rehearsal.

II. Rehearsals and Performances

- A. Check the schedule posted on both "announcement boards" in the front of the band room for rehearsal dates and times every Monday morning. **DO NOT RELY SOLELY ON SCROLLING ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SCHEDULED REHEARSAL REMINDERS.**
- B. Arrive on time for all rehearsals and performances, to maximize the limited time we have to rehearse as a full ensemble.
- C. A written or emailed excuse from a parent or guardian is required when a rehearsal or concert will be missed. **All excuses should be turned in prior to the rehearsal or performance that is to be excused.**

- D. An excuse note is not required when a student is absent from school, sent home early, or in the event of conflicting Tamanend games/functions occurring simultaneously.
1. Examples of acceptable excused absences from rehearsals may include, but are not limited to: Tamanend sporting events (game or meet), doctor's appointment or note from doctor concerning injury.
 2. Excuses such as tiredness, excess homework, haircuts, work and "I Forgot" will not be excused, resulting in a grade of a "0" for the rehearsal. The schedule is posted in advance, so the student has time to plan for the rehearsal.
- E. If there is an after-school conflict between band rehearsals (does not include concerts) and Tamanend sports practices, the student is to notify both the coach and Mr. Werner in advance and to **COME TO THE MUSIC REHEARSAL FIRST FULLY DRESSED FOR THEIR AFTER-SCHOOL SPORTS PRACTICE**. The student will rehearse with the band and will be dismissed early, at 3:30, to attend the remainder of their sports practice, which usually lasts until 5:00. Remember that attendance of after-school rehearsals is part of your grade and will hurt your grade if they are skipped or unexcused.
- F. All concerts are mandatory.
Since band class is a performance-based curriculum, students are expected to perform in the two evening concerts during the school year.
****Check your calendars now!**
If the student needs to be excused from the Winter Concert a note or email needs to be handed in by the end of October. All late requests will need to be handled through Mr. Werner by the parent or guardian directly.

III. Conduct

- A. Respect must be a foremost in the band room, and in the auditorium. I will not talk or play any instrument when you are talking, and I will ask the same of you when another student or myself is talking.
- B. No eating, drinking or anything other than water will be permitted in the band room or in the auditorium. Please do not chew gum, as this can not only cause harm to you and your instrument while playing, but this is also a school policy.

Grades will be determined by:

Summative Assessment (90%)

- Individual Rehearsal Performance Skills
- Playing tests on concert music, scales, and exercises handed out in class
- All 8th Grade students will play Major Scales up to three sharps and three flats.
- Attendance of all rehearsals and performances outside of the school day (unless excused before-hand)

Formative Assessment (10%)

- Daily Classroom Preparation
- Rehearsal Conduct

Assessment Retake Policy:

- Any reassessment opportunities must be taken in accordance with the CBSD grading policies. Students must notify their teacher within three days of a grade being posted if they wish to retake the assessment.
- Students may not reassess without completing all formative work for the assignment they wish to redo. Students may not receive a grade higher than 90% on a reassessment.

Extra help can be found during:

- Weekly *Tiger's i* Periods
- Thursday's after-school for "Jam-Hour" Practice Club