



HAZELWOOD NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

BAND Grade 6-8

Course Expectations 2018-19

PANTHERS

Al Stith

6-8 Grade Band

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I. Purpose

The band program is designed so that all members of the ensemble may expand their understanding and appreciation of music by developing their individual and ensemble performance skills and musical understanding.

II. Goals

1. *Tone Production* - Demonstrate through performance a characteristic tone that blends with the ensemble.

2. *Rhythm* - Recognize and perform basic rhythmic patterns with regard to steady beat, tempo, meter, time signature, and counting rhythms aloud.

3. *Technique* - Demonstrate through performance basic elements of playing technique with regard to scales, key signatures, articulation, intonation, accuracy, and facility.

4. *Musicianship and Musical Knowledge* - Recognize, demonstrate, and describe basic musical terms, symbols, dynamics, style, and phrasing.

5. *Ensemble Performance Skills* - Demonstrate accurate performance on your appropriately assigned part of the ensemble focusing on application of accurate pitch and rhythm, appropriate dynamics and balance, appropriate phrasing and expression, response to conducting gestures, and appropriate concert etiquette.

6. *Work Habits and Other Performance Factors* – Demonstrate and understand posture and instrument position, conductors beat patterns, proper instrument maintenance, bringing required materials for class, individual practice responsibilities, and individual participation.

III. Class Materials

The following items are necessary for band students.

1. Instrument - with necessary accessories such as reeds, valve oil, neck strap, etc.
2. Music folder or 3-ring binder
3. Metronome (home use)
4. Wire music stand

IV. Academic Expectations

1. Attend all classes, rehearsals, and performances.
2. Each student should have the following class materials: Instrument, Music, Pencil
3. Consistent daily practice and homework preparation.
4. Participate in a positive manner during class and performances.

V. Instruments

Students are expected to provide their own instruments for use in band. Guidelines for rental or purchase will be attached at the end of this document.

VI. Concert Dress

Appropriate concert dress is essential. HNMS wears a school polo (see order form), black dress slacks (no jeans), black socks, all black shoes.

VII. Performance/Rehearsal Guidelines

Please see the attached sheet regarding performances and rehearsals associated with the band program. Band members are expected to be present at all performances and rehearsals. Conflicts should always be reported to the director in advance so that a suitable solution can be arranged, if possible.

VIII. Grading Policy

A. Concerts/Individual Performance Tests (70%):

Please see the attached sheets regarding performances and rehearsals associated with the band program. Band members are expected to be present at all performances and rehearsals outside the normal school day. Points will be assigned for each concert and/or rehearsal outside of the normal school day for each quarter. In order to receive the designated points, you must be present at the concert or rehearsal. Conflicts should always be reported to the director in advance so that a suitable solution can be arranged, if possible.

Playing and written tests measuring knowledge and skills in: tone quality, embouchure, note reading, proper fingering, breathing, rhythmic accuracy, articulation, sticking, playing position, musical terms, intonation, and tempo/pulse.

*****Turning a performance test in late will result in the student's test grade being lowered one-half letter for each school day the test is late.***

B. Rehearsals/Classroom work/participation (20%):

In order to reward students that demonstrate their intent to learn and participate in class, we will also assign 100 participation points for each class meeting. In order to earn the highest possible participation points, students should demonstrate the following each day:

1. Daily class attendance
2. Respect the time available for class:
3. Arrive promptly
4. Arrive prepared (daily practice at home)
5. Arrive with the proper materials (instrument, music, pencil, etc.)

Examples of deductions in participation grade:

- 100 pts: No participation/forgot instrument, no alternate assignment/unexcused absence.
- 50 pts: Excessive disruptions; forgetting instrument, mouthpiece, reed, sticks, mallets; but contributes in a positive way as much as possible
- 25 pts: Borrowing missing materials; leaving class w/out permission; talking and/or disruptions, cell phone, food, etc.

C. Practice Record (10%):

Practice is essential to your child's success and is considered a homework assignment for instrumental music students. Practice records are designed to form good practice habits. Practice records are due EVERY Friday (or the last day of the school week) and are worth 100 points. Late practice records will not be given full credit. In order to receive 100 points for the week's practice record, you must have a minimum of 100 minutes of practicing (25 minutes, four (4) days of each week) and fill out the log correctly on the band practice form. Students will be instructed on how to properly fill out the Practice Record. Establishing a weekly practice schedule can often make it easier for your child to meet this expectation. With consistent daily practice, we are confident that your child can succeed in band.

D. Behavior Expectations

Guidelines for general conduct, behavior, and discipline are outlined in the Student Handbook and students are expected to follow these guidelines in band class. Below are some specific guidelines for the band program.

1. Students are to keep the room clean by picking up after themselves and resetting chairs and stands to original location.
2. Students may not chew gum, eat or drink in the band room.
3. Students should take special care to see that the instruments and equipment in the band room are well maintained and not damaged.
4. Enter the room quietly and orderly. Upon entering the room, students should sit in their assigned seat, put their instrument together, get their music in order, and work on the daily warm-up assignment.

HAZELWOOD NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

Performance and Event Calendar 2018-19

Saturday, September 22	Hazelwood Central High School Homecoming Parade	TBD
Monday, October 28	All Suburban Honor Band Auditions @Clayton High School	4:00– 9:00 p.m.
Monday, December 10	Winter Band Concert <i>Grades 6, 7, 8 – All Students</i>	6:30 p.m.
Monday -Wednesday, March 4-6	Saint Louis Music Educators Large Ensemble Festival	TBD
Tuesday, March 5	8 th Grade Student Showcase	6:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 13	Solo and Ensemble Festival @Holman Middle School	TBD
Monday, May 6	Spring Band Concert <i>Grades 6, 7, 8 – All Students</i>	6:30 p.m.



PANTHERS

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MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND
Grade 6-8
2018-19**

COURSE EXPECTATIONS FORM

I have read and understand the policies, guidelines, and information contained in this packet for the Hazelwood North Middle School Bands.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian email address: _____
(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Return this form by Friday, August 24th

Mr. Stith's School Band Supplies List

1" or 1.5"- 3 Ring Binder

Page Protectors-pack of 25

Music Lyre clip and flip folder for parades (optional)

Method Book* – *Standard of Excellence*, Book 1 (6th Grade); Book 2 (7th and 8th)

Facial Tissues

Music Stand for home practice

Band instrument (see band director for instrument choices and rental information)

Accessories (shown below for each instrument)

Pencils, #2

**Students need to pay for school borrowed books or borrowed sheet music that are lost.*

Accessories

FLUTES: cleaning rod, handkerchief, music stand, luggage tag.

CLARINETS and SAXOPHONES:

REEDS - All reed players *must* have at least 4 good reeds at all times! Ideal brands are La Voz, Vandoren or Rico Royal. A strength of 2.5 or 3 is recommended for 6th grade. 7th and 8th graders should be using at least a 3. Use reeds carefully and they will last 3 to 4 weeks.

Mouthpiece – Upgrading your mouthpiece is an inexpensive way to improve the quality of sound and the ease of play. I recommend most clarinet and saxophone students consider upgrading to the following mouthpiece when possible: Clarinet J& D Hite H111 Premier (approx. \$22 on Amazon). Alto Saxophone J&D Hite H117 Premier (approx.. \$25 on Amazon).

-Cork Grease, mouthpiece cap, swab. Mouthpiece brush, luggage tag, music stand, thumb saver (optional), swab. Saxophone strap.

TRUMPETS, FRENCH HORN, BARITONE: valve oil, mouthpiece brush, luggage tag and music stand. 7th and 8th grader trumpets should consider upgrading to a Bach 5C mouthpiece.

TROMBONE: slide oil, mouthpiece brush, luggage tag, music stand. 7th and 8th graders should consider upgrading to a Bach 6.5 AL mouthpiece.

PERCUSSION:

Bell Kit should be rented.

1 Stick Bag with the following:

2 pairs of concert sticks (Vic Firth 5BN or 2BN)

1 pair of marching sticks (Vic Firth SD1 General)

1 Pair of Yarn Mallets (Vic Firth or Mike Balter, Blue or red)

1 Pair of Medium Rubber Mallets (Mike Balter 105B or similar)

1 Pair of Timpani Mallets (Vic Firth – Generals)

Snare Drum or practice pad for home use.

*These companies are suggestions, not mandatory. Most can be found at a local music store or online retailers such as Amazon.

**Put names on stick bags, sticks and mallets using tape and a sharpie.