



Northridge Bands

Northridge Middle School Bands

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Band Handbook

Classroom Rules

*All school rules apply in this classroom

1. Respect the Class: Be seated with instrument together and music ready 2 minutes after bell rings and bring all required materials EVERY day.
2. Respect the Equipment: Protect your instruments from damage, clean your instruments, put books and tuners away, and do not touch percussion instruments without permission.
3. Respect Each Other: Every individual is important to making our group successful, so adhere to the Golden Rule- Treat others as you wish to be treated.

Required Class Materials

The following are required for class EVERY day. They should always be at the student's seat (not in cases or in hallway). Not having these items will result in a deduction of participation points.

1. Pencil (not a pen)
2. Assignment Notebook
3. Chromebook
4. Method Book
 - a. All Grades (Winds)- Standard of Excellence: Book 1
 - b. 8th Grade (Winds)- Measures of Success: Book 2
 - c. Percussion (All Grades)- Wessels Books: Snare and Mallets
5. Any sheet music passed out in class
6. A Folder
7. Instrument
8. Instrument Specific Equipment
 - a. Woodwinds: Extra Reed and Cork Grease
 - b. Brass: Valve/Slide Oil
 - c. Percussion: Drumsticks, Yarn Mallets, Xylophone Mallets

Instrument Storage

There are places for students to store instruments in the band room. Everything is to be kept on a shelf. Stuff on the floor may be thrown away. If a student wishes to lock their instrument in the caged storage spot, he/she must provide the lock. *The band program and Northridge Middle School are not responsible for lost items as everyone is given the chance to lock up their instrument.*

Important Dates

PUT THESE DATES ON
YOUR CALENDAR RIGHT AWAY

Date	Concert	Time
Friday, November 20	Fall Band Concert	6:30 PM
Saturday, March 20	ISSMA Contest **7 th & 8 th Grade Only**	TBA
Saturday, March 27	Pancake Breakfast	8 AM- 12 PM
Tuesday, March 30	Percussion Concert **Percussionists Only**	7 PM
Thursday, May 13	Final Concert	6:30 PM

THESE PERFORMANCES ARE PART OF THE
CLASS. THEY ARE FOR A GRADE.

Only excused absences are family emergency, illness, or school related activity that meets the guidelines set forth in the NMS Student Handbook "Activity Conflicts Policy."

Attendance is mandatory at performances. The dates are given well in advance to avoid scheduling conflicts. Please let Mr. Cone know right away of any conflicts.

Band Websites

www.northridgeband.org- This site will typically have announcements such as report times for concerts and reminders for extra-curricular bands. It has a few helpful links to videos to improve practice sessions. It also has an electronic copy of the all important *Practice Report* for download.

Facebook: NMS Band Geeks- The Facebook page is the easiest way to keep in communication with you. It is strongly encouraged all parents AND students with Facebook pages join this group.

Instagram: nmsbandgeeks- Pictures, pictures, pictures. Please do not send messages to this account. It is not checked frequently enough for communication.

Google Classroom- Every handout sent home and every homework assignment will be available for download on Google Classroom. If you lose a copy, this is a great place to find them. Recordings of performances will also be uploaded to this site.

Purchasing Band Equipment

The school has a small supply of simple equipment for instruments. If you wish to purchase some, students must see the Band Treasurer (an elected position). This must be done at the beginning of the class period. Below is a list of items and prices usually in stock.

Item	Single	Box
Clarinet Reeds	\$3	\$22 / 10 Reeds
Bass Clarinet Reeds	\$3	\$28 / 10 Reeds
Alto Sax Reeds	\$3	\$28 / 10 Reeds
Tenor Sax Reeds	\$4	\$36 / 10 Reeds
Bari Sax Reeds	\$4	\$38 / 10 Reeds
Oboe Reeds	\$13	
Slide/Valve Oil	\$1	
Cork Grease	\$1	
Woodwind Swabs	\$11	
Standard of Excellence: Book 1	\$10	
Measures of Success	\$9	

Performance Dress Code

Students not following this dress code may not be allowed to perform.

Gentlemen	Ladies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Black Long-Sleeve Button Down Shirt ● Black Dress Slacks ● Black Socks ● Black Shoes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nice Black Top ● Black Dress Slacks or Skirt ● Black Dress Shoes

Grading Procedures

Class Participation- Each week, students will receive 50 points for participating properly in class. If a student is tardy to class 5 points will be deducted. For playing with improper technique, being disruptive, or missing some required class material 10 points will be deducted.

Performance- Performances are the culminating events that show parents what has been accomplished in class. Students with an excused absence must complete an alternate assignment to receive credit for the performance. If a student does not show up and is not excused, his/her grade will be deducted two letter grades. *If a student misses two performances, he/she will no longer be allowed to participate in band class.*

Practice Reports- Students are rewarded for showing the instructors they are trying to improve. These are due every Friday and are worth 50 points. They will be accepted late but for only half credit. 100 minutes of practice are required weekly. We have no benchwarmers during concerts. EVERYONE is important to helping the band sound great.

FAILURE TO TURN IN PRACTICE REPORTS MAY RESULT IN ONE'S REMOVAL FROM BAND CLASS

Quizzes/Tests- Both written and performance quizzes/tests will be given. The number of points will be determined by the tests difficulty.

Homework- Wait, homework in Band Class? Yes, it is a class like every other, so students will be expected to turn in homework. Late assignments may lose up to 10% of points per day.

Extra Credit

There are a few extra credit opportunities listed below. If students have ideas for others, they can certainly be discussed with the instructor.

1. *See a Musical Show-* Go to a concert (musical symphony, band, choir, jazz band) and write a one page reaction about your experience there.
2. *Perform Outside of Class-* If you perform at all outside of class, bring a program from your performance or have the person in charge sign a note documenting your performance. If you can obtain a recording, Mr. Cone would love to hear it!
3. *Practice Extra-* The easiest and best way to gain extra points. All one has to do is practice 5 or more days in a week. It's as easy as blinking or making weapons-grade plutonium.

Parent/Student Band Contract

There is an [electronic version of this form](#) on the Band website and Google Classroom. That is the preferred method. Paper form only needs to be turned in if you cannot turn in electronically.

Student Name: _____

Form (electronic or paper) is due by Friday, August 21.
Keep the rest of the packet for your records.

Student Signature: _____

- I understand that practice at home is a requirement for Band Class. If I choose to not practice the entire ensemble will be held back by my choice. I also understand that I may no longer be allowed to participate in band if I do not show I am trying to improve my playing.
- I understand that band is a class and so assigned homework is expected to be turned in.
- I have read this handbook and understand all policies in regards to grading procedures, classroom rules, and the performance dress code.
- I understand that if I have an unexcused absence from a performance or do not complete the alternative assignment for an excused absence, my grade will be deducted two letter grades.
- I understand that if I have two unexcused absences from performances, I will be removed from Band Class.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

- I have read this handbook and understand all policies in regards to grading procedures, classroom rules, and the performance dress code.
- I understand that if my student has an unexcused absence from a performance or does not complete the alternative assignment for an excused absence, his/her grade will be deducted two letter grades.
- I understand that if my Band Geek has two unexcused absences from performances, he/she will be removed from Band Class.
- I give permission to allow the school buses to transport my Band Geek to ISSMA Contest.
- ***My Band Geek has a conflict with the following dates (please list reason):***

No Student May Drop Band
After Friday, August 21