

August 13, 2018

Dear Advanced Band Students and Parents:

Welcome to another school year. I hope you are as excited about the upcoming year as I am. Aside from the first year, the second & third years of band are the most important years in determining your child's success in music. As this year's seventh & eighth grade class makes up one of our most talented groups, I hope to have a very productive and successful year. This is a VERY talented class!

To this end, I think it is important to establish a few guidelines so that students develop as quickly as possible. Participation in a band class has certain social aspects which are inherent in the program. I appreciate the enthusiasm students have shown while enjoying the camaraderie of the group. As teachers, we are charged with helping students find the balance between enjoying each other's company and learning. I am asking parents to help us reinforce acceptable standards of classroom conduct and the **effort** put forth toward learning to play a musical instrument. Both will be major factors in determining students' nine weeks grades.

The following guidelines should be adhered to at all times:

--first and foremost, students need to remain quiet and listen to the instructions given during rehearsal without offering unnecessary commentary or holding individual conversations which are unrelated to the topic being discussed;

--students are to arrive to band class on time and with all necessary materials including (please read carefully); their instrument; instrument supplies (3-4 working reeds for woodwinds, valve and slide oil for brass, stick bag and sticks for percussion, etc.); all music and band books; a pencil; and a willingness to learn;

--gum, candy, food, and drinks other than water damage costly instruments and the appearance of our band room. These items should be disposed of **BEFORE** entering the band room. Brass and woodwind players should rinse their mouths with water to remove sugar from the mouth and prevent mold from growing in instruments.

**--STUDENTS SHOULD RESPECT THEIR PERSONAL RIGHT TO LEARN AND THAT OF OTHER STUDENTS AT ALL TIMES.**

Students will be bringing home a uniform form and volunteer form to be signed and returned. Please take time to read through your handbook from last year again.

I look forward to working with you and your child during the upcoming year. With your support and guidance at home and our commitment to high standards in the classroom, the year promises to be rewarding and fulfilling. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to call. (547-8025 ext. 2514)  
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Musically,

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