

Lake Asbury Junior High 2019-2020 Band Handbook

Welcome to Band for the 2019-2020 school year! You will be able to find the answers to most of your questions listed here in this handbook. There are a lot of exciting things planned for this school year as I prepare your children for high school band. Our band program consists of four band classes and our after school program, United Sound. Each calendar event is labeled accordingly. Feel free to contact me at any time preferably by email which is the most reliable and quickest way to get in touch with me.

Musically,
Mrs. Jones

CLASS/REHEARSAL RULES AND GUIDELINES

When students enter the band room for class, they will have three minutes to take out their instruments and have a seat. Three minutes after the bell rings, class will start. Any student not prepared to play at this point will be marked tardy. Beginning band students will receive extra time during the first half of the year. In order to accomplish as much as possible each day, class time will be very structured. To keep it this way, students must follow a simple, but strict discipline policy. In addition to all school rules, there are guidelines to behavior in band class:

1. If you would like to talk, raise your hand and get permission first.
2. Stay in your seat, unless you have permission to get up.
3. Only play your instrument when directed.
4. Gum, food and drinks are not allowed in the band room. Any items left over from lunch or brought from another class can be left at the bookshelf by the door with permission from the band director.
5. Touch only your assigned instrument. Don't play somebody else's even if they let you.
6. Follow the teacher's directions on the first time
7. Do not spray perfumes, body sprays, deodorants or scented hand sanitizers inside the band room.
8. Mrs. Jones releases the class, not the bell

Consequences for not following rules or guidelines include:

1. Verbal or Visual Warning
2. Moved seat or time out
3. Parent Phone Call
4. Parent Conference or Referral
5. Possibly removal from future band trips

FIELD TRIP RULES AND GUIDELINES

Students are expected to follow all classroom and school rules while representing our band on field trips. In addition students are expected to stay with their chaperone at all times, follow any directions given, and be dressed according to the school dress code.

Consequences for not following the rules or guidelines include:

1. Verbal or Visual Warning
2. Moved Seat or Chaperone Group
3. Parent Phone Call
4. Removal from Future Band Trips and/or Referral

GRADING POLICY

Your grade in band will be determined as follows:

Daily Participation: 40%
Pass-offs/Playing or Written Tests: 40%
Concerts: 20%

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*Tests will take place every week on Fridays.

* Participation grades are based upon attendance and participation and are equal to 10 points daily. Students will not lose points for excused absences. Deductions include : Late to Seat (-1), No Pencil (-2), No Music (-3), No Instrument (-10), Unexcused Absence (-10).

* Students must use their own instrument/mouthpiece for rehearsals. A school instrument/mouthpiece will not be provided on days that a student forgets their own.

*Before or after school rehearsals are included in the participation category. Beginners must make 2 out of 3 rehearsals before a concert.

* Concert etiquette is a part of each student's concert grade.

*Mrs. Jones must be informed at least two weeks in advance by a parent if a child is going to miss a concert or rehearsal. In the event of an illness, a doctor's note must be provided. Students will have to demonstrate knowledge of their concert music by playing for the director upon their return. In some cases make-up assignments may include a two page, double spaced report. The musical topic will be at the discretion of the teacher and must be handed in within five class periods of the concert. The appropriate make-up assignment will be selected by the teacher.

MATERIALS

All students need the following materials for band class each day:

- Pencil
- Instrument and Supplies (Must have instrument in hand by September 9 or have spoken to band director. Students who do not have their instrument by that day will have their class changed.)
- *Accent on Achievement - Book 1*, for beginning band students
- *Alfred's Drum Method- Book 1*, all percussion students (percussion students are required to have both the Drum Method and Accent on Achievement books).
- All music and handouts used in class
- 1" Three Ring Binder
- Page Protectors
- Notebook Paper

Optional Items

- Wire music stand for at home practice
- Metronome
- Tuner

Woodwind Students

All clarinet and saxophone players should have at least three or four extra reeds in their cases at all times. This will prevent a student from running out of reeds during class. A student without working reeds cannot play their instrument, and will not be able to fully participate in class. Vandoren Reeds and Rovner Ligatures are required for clarinet players. Cheaper brands do not produce the quality of sound that students will be expected to make. Never leave your reed on your mouthpiece for storage.

Bassoon and Oboe players should have at least two working reeds at all times. They should also own a swab to clean out their instrument.

Brass Students

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All brass players should have valve oil in their cases at all times (rotor oil for French horns). Keeping valves oiled and clean will prevent many common problems. This will also save money on repairs and maintenance. Trombones should have slide oil to keep their slides in working order.

Each student needs to purchase their own mouthpiece.

Percussion Students

All beginning band percussionists need to rent a bell kit from a local music store – this is the instrument used to start students on the percussion instruments. **A \$25 percussion fee will be assessed for the upkeep of our classroom percussion instruments.**

All percussion students should have a stick bag with sticks, bells mallets, and medium-hard yarn mallets with a stick bag. The stick bag should be labeled with the student's name. Costello's Music and Music and Arts should have this information on hand for our school.

UNIFORMS, FUNDRAISING, BAND FEE

Band is a nonprofit organization. We have a lot of expenses that we need to cover, and fundraising is the only way we can meet our needs. **All students will be assessed a \$70.00 fee to help us pay for these items. Band fees are nonrefundable.** This is separate from the cost of renting your instrument—that has nothing to do with the school and is through an outside company.

For performances, students will need to purchase black dress pants and **nice, closed toe** black shoes (with black socks!). These will NOT be provided for you. First year students are provided with band polos and tuxedo shirts. Students in Symphonic and Concert Band will use the same shirts from the previous year. If the student has outgrown or lost the shirts, they can be traded in for an item of a larger size. Any student who lost their uniform will need to purchase a new one. The band will provide students with a cummerbund and bow tie for the performance, which will be turned in immediately following. If there is an issue with cost, *please contact the director.*

There will also be two fundraisers throughout the year. Profits from these fundraisers will help to cover the costs of new instruments, chairs, stands and other incidentals.

OTHER INFORMATION

♪ Students are held accountable for any school-owned item(s) assigned to them. Lost or damaged items are their responsibility to replace or repair in a timely manner.

♪ **Each band student is expected to practice** their instrument and will be given assignments. Playing an instrument is physical; therefore, you need to build muscles and endurance. I suggest setting aside a regular time of approximately 15-20 minutes in a well-lit area with a music stand. (Wire music stands can be purchased from any music store.) Students will be given the opportunity to practice in the mornings before school on specific days.

♪ **If a student is sick and cannot play their instrument**, they are to participate by fingering along on their instrument. Students who have an excused absence from school will not lose their participation points for the day.

♪ **Lost Music:** Additional music will be copied once a week and will cost \$0.25 to replace.

♪ **Rehearsals:** Students may be expected to attend rehearsals as part of their grade. Students in Symphonic Band who do not attend their rehearsals may be moved to a different band.

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♪ **Restrooms:** Students may use the restroom at the beginning or end of class during the time allotted to set up or put away instruments.

♪ **Sports:** Mrs. Jones will do her best to accommodate the sporting schedule. Often a compromise can be reached between band and sporting practices or events. Band Concerts must be attended for the duration of the child's assigned class performance regardless of the practice/game schedule. Students may arrive late or leave early from a concert if there is a game with the advance permission of the director.

Checklist

Please return this checklist and the forms that follow it by Friday, August 16.

All Band Parents:

Please
Initial

_____ My child will be able to attend all **mandatory performances and rehearsals**. I understand that my child's grade may be substantially lowered if he/she does not attend a mandatory performance or joint rehearsal without giving notice to the director at least two weeks in advance.

_____ I filled out and attached the **Volunteer Registration and Release and Hold Harmless Agreement** that will allow me to attend field trips or on campus activities.

_____ I Signed up for **REMIND**

_____ I understand the rules, obligations, and expectations of the band program as outlined in this handbook.

Symphonic and Concert Band Parents Only:

_____ I filled out and attached the **Field Trip Permission Slip** that will allow my child to attend band field trips this school year.

Symphonic Band Only:

_____ I filled out the attached permission slip for the Clay County Honor Band. If my child has a date conflict I am sending a parent letter in its place.

#1 Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

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Email: _____

#1 Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Parent Signature: _____