

MABELLE B. AVERY
7th/8th GRADE BAND
RULES – PROCEDURES – GRADING

Attendance

Members of the band are expected to be in their assigned seat, ready to play two minutes after the beginning class bell rings. Students are to hold all questions until everyone is seated. This expedites the rehearsal process for all involved. Extra rehearsals are sometimes scheduled during the school year. These rehearsals and sectionals will follow the same time schedule.

Band members are required to be present at all performances during the school year. ***Failure to attend any performance, without an approved excused absence by the director, will result in a 25 point deduction for that particular marking period after all grade calculations are made. The points cannot be made up after the fact.*** (See the concert schedule at the end of these rules/regulations or on SomersBand.com).

****Please keep in mind that being in a performing ensemble is a team based activity and is a commitment. We are all counting on each other. As a member of the band we need you to make EVERY EFFORT to attend all performances and rehearsals.****

REHEARSAL PROCEDURES

- Promptness: Be on time.
- All questions are held until all are seated and the director is on the podium. Failure to follow this rule will result in a 5 point deduction at the end of the semester.
- Self-discipline: No talking when the director is on the podium.
- Rehearsal schedule: Arrange music in the same order you see listed on the board.
- Be neat: pick up around you. Do not move equipment from section to section. Replace chairs and stands to their original locations.
- Each student is responsible for having their own pencil at their stand and use it to write down specific changes as we make them. Failure to have a pencil will result in a five point deduction at the end of the semester.
- Gum and food are not allowed in the band room. Failure to follow this rule will result in a 5 point deduction at the end of the semester.

NO BAND IS BETTER THAN ITS REHEARSAL. REHEARSE AS IF IT WERE A CONCERT!

INSTRUMENTS

- All instrument cases and drum sticks must clearly have names posted on them.
- Students are to write their serial number on the signature page of this document.
- Drummers: any personally lost stick is your responsibility to replace. All sticks without names are considered to be the property of the MBA Middle School Band.
- Drummers are to stand during rehearsal. Chairs are not to be allowed in the percussion section. Failure to follow this rule will result in a 5 point deduction at the end of the semester.

- School owned instruments must be signed out with the director. Damaged equipment will be repaired at your expense.

MUSIC

Each band member is responsible for their music folder and the condition of its content, making sure it is in school daily for rehearsals.

Students will receive new music from the band secretary or Mrs. Wolf. If a second copy is needed, it is to be obtained through the band secretary. Please keep in mind that sheet music is expensive to replace, and treat your copies carefully.

INSTRUMENT STORAGE

- Every member will receive a locker in the band room for daytime storage only. You are responsible for the condition of the locker and its content. Do not mix your instruments with the sixth graders.
- Instruments and music are to go home every evening for practice.
- Students should bring their instruments to the band room before morning homeroom. As soon as you drop it off you are to report to homeroom. The music wing is not a place to loiter in. It is your responsibility to be in homeroom on time. Instrument drop-off is never an excuse for tardiness.

CONCERT DRESS

Every member is responsible to own a pair of BLACK pants, BLACK, shoes, BLACK socks and a BLACK turtleneck shirt. Absolutely no substitution of color is acceptable. (If finances limit your ability to purchase these items, contact Mrs. Wolf and she will make arrangements for purchase on a confidential basis.)

The Somers Music Patrons supply band shirts at cost (\$15 ea). We keep an inventory. What you purchase, you own. A size form will be handed to you soon for you to fill out and return.

ALL BAND SHIRT MONEY (\$15) IS DUE BY SEPTEMBER 12th, 2017.

GRADING

1. Every student begins each semester with the grade of "C", average (75 points)
2. Students are responsible for increases or decreases in their semester grade in relationship to the quality of their work and their ability to follow these rules and procedures.
3. Students can increase their grades by:
 - a. Active Listening Assignments (up to 15 pts. depending on the quality of work)
 - b. Challenges: see separate sheet regarding challenges for details (5 pts./person involved in each challenge.)
 - c. Attendance at public concerts (5 pts./concert attended. Either a program, with a student and parent signature or an "Attended Concert" Google Form must be

- submitted before the closing of grades each semester. The concert credit is given during the marking period that the concert date occurred in.)
- d. Practice Journals may be submitted online through Google Forms (5 pts. ea.)
 - e. Personal public performances, ie. church, Lions Club, Rotary, recitals, etc. (10 pts. ea.)
 - f. Private study or tutoring sessions – must have proper documentation. (30 pts./quarter)
 - g. **There will be a 5 point deduction per day for late forms.** This includes uniform and music returns as well as fees collected. 5 pts. will be given when forms and fees meet deadlines.
 - h. Students can occasionally earn merits and demerits through in class participation. (5 pts. ea.)
4. Students will be requested to play portions of their music at any point and time throughout the school year, for a grade, without prior warning. This performance may take place with the director, section leader or before the entire band. It is highly suggested that students keep up with their daily practice as to be prepared for this portion of their grade. Students may also be asked to record themselves and submit the recording for a grade.
 5. Cell Phones: Any student using a cell phone (or other personal device) during class (including all aspects of the phone: calls, texting and pictures) will receive a full grade deduction at the end of the marking period. Any student with a phone on their person during a performance will receive a failing grade for that marking period. Students can carry a cell phone when we have parades or travel so they can contact a parent/guardian for a ride after the event.

See the Somers Music Department Web Page (SomersBand.com) or the handout at the back of this packet for your mandatory performance dates.

In conclusion: I expect all of the above rules and procedures to be followed on a daily basis. When in operation, they will assist us in being of the highest quality possible.

Students failing to adhere to any portion of the above listed regulations will be subject to disciplinary action and/or point deductions. Those students persisting in improper behavior will be removed from the band without hesitation.

Let's make this year the very best! Treat others with respect and work hard, and the rewards will be great!

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, and Kindness

Our Shared Core Values, "The Spartan Code"

Mrs. Jessica L. Wolf

Band Director
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(860) 749-2270

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RETURN THIS FORM TO SCHOOL ON OR BEFORE **TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2017.**

We have read and agree to adhere to all of the above listed rules and regulations necessary to be a member of the MBA Middle School Band. We are also aware that students begin each semester with a grade of “C” no matter what instrument is involved. It is also my responsibility as a student to *improve* my grade, as listed above, each semester.

We are also aware of the performances I am required to attend and the fact that my grade is directly related to my attendance at these functions.

Student signature: _____

Student name (printed): _____

Parent Signature: _____

Email address: _____

Instrument Played: _____

Serial Number: _____