

## WHAT TO EXPECT IN BAND:

### GOALS

Learn to play an instrument!!! This includes learning how to read notes, how to sound notes, and how to read rhythms. The goal of 6<sup>th</sup> grade band is to begin learning how to perform on instruments.

**STUDENTS MUST PRACTICE AT HOME.** *Parents*, please help schedule a practice time of at least 15 minutes each evening during the set homework time to encourage proper practice habits. Students will be successful only if they are practicing regularly. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of DAILY practice.

### PRACTICE RECORDS

Students will be required to fill out and turn in a practice record each week. Practice time will be recorded in the front cover of the band book and must be signed by a parent/guardian and turned in on **Friday** of each school week. Students should not leave instruments in the band room, lockers, or classrooms after school hours. **Instruments must go home each evening for practice purposes.**

### PERFORMANCE

The purpose of band at any level is performance. **All scheduled performances are a part of the student's band grade.** An unexcused absence at a performance will result in the lowering of 2 letter grades to the final quarter grade. A second unexcused absence will result in a failing grade for the course and immediate dismissal from the program. Tardiness to any performance or rehearsal results in a deduction in grade unless cleared with the directors first.

An unexcused absence must be in writing by a parent or guardian before the event.

In order to be fair and consistent, only the following excuses are accepted.

1. Serious illness (requiring a signed doctor's note)
2. Death in the family (requiring a signed note from a parent or guardian)
3. Church Responsibilities with prior notice and approval of the director(s)
4. Other school activities with prior notice and approval of the director(s)

Families are asked to avoid planning activities that conflict with rehearsals and performances in order to prevent the above consequences being imposed on their child. Unacceptable excuses included, but are not limited to: work, social activities, failure to remember time and date of scheduled activities.

### PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

Out concerts are formal events. Students should dress up in nice clothes to attend the concert. Jeans, even dark jeans, are unacceptable. Gentlemen should wear a tie. Ladies should abide by school dress code. Skirts above the knee are unacceptable.

### GRADES

Grading for band class includes but is not limited to the following: performance assessments, concert attendance, daily participation points, general attendance, written assignments, playing tests, SmartMusic Assignments, and projects. The two largest portions of 6<sup>th</sup> grade band grades are Practice Records and Concert Attendance.

**For text updates about the class: Text the Message @muband6 to 81010**