

West Branch Middle School Band Handbook

1. Grading Procedure

200 Points each 9-week term	Active participation in rehearsals and lessons (evidence of practice and/or preparation)
10-100 Points	Written and/or performance evaluation (worksheets, quizzes, or playing tests)
100 Points each performance	Concerts, Assemblies, Special Programs, etc.

2. Classroom Rules and Expectations

1. Please pay attention.
2. Only one person talks at a time.
3. No gum, food, drink, or electronic devices during class. (water is fine)
4. Always bring *your* materials:
***Instrument, Music, and Pencil.**
5. Do not touch any equipment in the band room without permission.
6. Be kind to others.
7. Always give your best effort!

3. Discipline Policy

Possible discipline measures may include but are not limited to:

- Lunch Detention/Full Detention/Suspension
- Writing assignments
- Conference with parents and/or principal
- Suspension and/or removal from ensemble
- ***All school rules (including dress code) apply for all band events!***

4. Attendance Expectations

**Band is a performance-oriented class that is based on daily participation (rehearsal). Therefore, you must fully participate in all rehearsals, lessons, and performances to earn full credit. Regular and punctual attendance for all band events is mandatory. Missing a performance for any reason may result in an alternative assignment and/or a lower grade.*

Excused Absences:

Sometimes an emergency comes up and a student is not able to attend a performance. Examples of this may be serious illness, death in the family, or a car accident. A student who misses a performance because of an emergency situation, must turn in a note from his/her parent/guardian to the director explaining the reason for missing the event. All excuses will be considered on an individual basis. A make up assignment will be made available if requested.

Unexcused Absences:

An absence is unexcused if a student misses a performance with no *reasonable excuse*. The student's grade will be negatively affected if an event is missed. Plan ahead. Have a back-up ride if needed. (One example of a bad excuse is: "I couldn't get a ride to the concert.")

West Branch Middle School Band Handbook

5. Concert Etiquette

“Throughout the year, our bands work very hard toward their goal of performing at concerts. I know the students will give their best efforts as performers and hope that you, as audience members, will help provide the students with a true concert atmosphere. In order to heighten the experience for you as a listener and for the students as performers, we'd like to remind you of the following points of concert etiquette”:

*** Talking and other audience noise can distract young performers. Please refrain from talking while musical selections are being played.**

*** Please be sure that all cell phones and electronic devices are in silent mode.**

*** We understand that some individuals might need to enter or exit the performance area during the concert. In order to not distract from the performance, please try to enter and exit only between musical selections.**

*** It might be a good idea to sit near an exit with small children. Children sometimes become restless during the course of a concert. By sitting near an exit you can minimize the distraction by slipping out as quietly as possible.**

6. Performance Dress Code

How we look as a band is part of our performance! Review these dress code requirements with your parents. This will give you plenty of time to find appropriate clothing to wear to our formal concerts. Remember that if you do not meet our dress code you may face disciplinary measures and your concert participation grade may be significantly lowered.

Boys

- Dress shirt/tie or Golf shirt (shirt with a collar) or sweater, dress pants/khakis
- Dress shoes/boots and/or loafer type shoes with dark socks

Girls

- Dress or skirt or dress pants/khakis and blouse or collared shirt.
- Appropriate dress shoes

General Dress Code Reminders:

- *Jeans with holes, Athletic attire, and flip flops are not acceptable attire for formal concert performances.*
- *No large or flashy jewelry (It can cause a distraction on stage)*
- * All school rules (including dress code rules) apply at all performances!*

7. Equipment

****Please be sure to label your instrument case and music with your name!***

***Three items that you should have for all rehearsals and performances include:**

- 1. Your folder (with your book and all of the music)*
- 2. Your own pencil*
- 3. Your instrument (including all supplies- reeds, oil, swabs, etc.)*

West Branch Middle School Band Handbook

8. Concert Dates

A concert can be a wonderful educational experience for the performers as well as the audience members. They are a special time for us to show everyone the results of all of our hard work and preparation. Thank you for helping make our students concert experience the best possible. I know that you will be proud of their hard work!

The West Branch Middle School bands will have the following list of **MANDATORY** performances this year. Mark these dates in your planner and on your parent's calendar at home. Remember, you are required to participate in all performances. You will also find them on my school website homepage and on the school district website calendar.

West Branch Middle School Band Performances 2021-22

***Holiday Concert.....Dec. 17, 2021 @7:00pm**
(5th, 6th, 7th Bands)

***Winter Concert.....March 4, 2022 @7:00pm**
(6th, 7th, and Jazz bands only)

***Solo & Ensemble Contest..... April 9, 2022 @(8-4)**
(Optional for 7th and 8th graders only)

***Festival of Bands.....May 6, 2022 @7:30pm**
(All Bands 5-12)

***Important Date:**

Spring Beginner Band Meeting for all 4th graders will be
May 19, 2022 @7:00pm

West Branch Middle School Band Handbook

Reference Sheet

Please return to Mr. Stehura by Tuesday, September 21!

(Please print clearly)

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Street Address: _____

City and Zip: _____

Instrument:(Type, Brand, Serial #)_____

Name of
Parent/Guardian: _____ Phone: _____

Name of
Parent/Guardian: _____ Phone: _____

Parent Email : _____

Parent--please read and sign below

I have read the band handbook with my child and understand the guidelines and requirements. I agree to help the director maintain a quality organization with proper discipline by encouraging my child to abide by the class rules and requirements. I understand that all band members must attend all of the scheduled performances. I understand that failure to attend a performance without a valid excuse may result in the lowering of my child's grade for the grading period in which the concert was missed.

Parent's signature _____ Date: _____

Student--please read and sign below

I have read the band handbook with my parent and understand the guidelines and requirements. I agree to abide by the guidelines and requirements established for this class. I understand that I must attend all of the performances listed. I understand that failure to attend a performance may result in the lowering of my grade for the grading period in which the concert was missed. **I will always ask the director for help if I have any questions or concerns.**

Student's signature _____ Date: _____