

Creekside Middle School
7th and 8th Grade Bands Syllabus
2021-2022

Class Procedure and Rules

1. Check the board or screen for daily announcements, class objectives, and assignments. Get out all necessary materials (instrument, accessories, music stand, music, PENCIL).
2. Remember to raise your hand if you wish to have the attention of the class. Please do not talk out or distract from other's education.
3. The only things found on your music stand should be: your music, book and pencil. The stands were not designed to hold binders or textbooks. (Or instruments and people!)
4. Only the percussionists may touch the percussion equipment.
5. You may play the piano after receiving permission from the teacher.
6. Lost music will cost \$.50 per page.
7. The instrument room is a storage facility where many instruments are kept. Nobody is allowed to touch an instrument that does not belong to them in any way. There is zero tolerance for those who break this rule.
8. This class may not be recorded in any way without the prior permission of the instructor. are to remain under your chair unless we are using them.
9. Chromebooks must remain under your chair unless we are using them in class.
10. If we switch to remote learning, students must keep cameras on in order to get credit for the class.

Enrollment

Due to its unique nature, enrollment in band at Creekside Middle School is a year-long commitment. Please understand the skills necessary to be successful in band are developmental and each student progresses at his or her own rate. Practice and study usually dictate that rate. It is not unusual for even the most talented student to become frustrated at times. We believe it is then that the student's diligence will most often lead to the greatest understanding.

School equipment

The band department is able to loan large instruments for student use. These instruments are very valuable and are extremely expensive to replace. All students who are issued a school instrument will be asked to provide a \$75.00 rental fee. This fee will cover common repairs that are a result of everyday maintenance, however, the fee does not cover any damage that is the result of misuse or neglect. Instrument contracts will be mailed home later in the year. Reeds can be purchased in the band office:

Clarinet = \$2, Alto = \$3, Tenor/Bass Clarinet = \$4, Bari = \$5, Oboe/bassoon = \$10

Website: creeksideband.com

Please visit creeksideband.com, our official Creekside Band Website where you can find important information, assignments, concert dates and much more! If parents or grandparents are ever unable to attend a concert, the concert recording will be posted to the site so that everybody can enjoy the experience. Feel free to bookmark creeksideband.com for easy recall.

Fund Raising

Fundraising events are becoming increasingly necessary to fund school programs. Students' involvement is twofold. It increases understanding of being a team player and provides materials that benefit them directly. Fundraising events are optional but participation is encouraged. More information will be handed out the last week of September.

Grading

Classroom participation, classwork and check-ins 20% of your grade

Students will earn FIVE participation points a day. Students who do not have their instrument will receive a zero and students who are missing music or their band book will get partial credit. Habitual missing items will result in an SRC plan. Parents should send a note when the instrument is in the shop so that there are no misunderstandings. Students who display behavioral disruptions more than once in a class, will lose their participation points for that day.

We will have worksheets and other work to accomplish in class. Practice is your homework in band. In order for you to improve, and for all students in the group to have a positive experience, it is *necessary* for you to practice. Instead of practice records, you will be submitting “check-ins” about every two weeks. The check-in will be a portion of a song or an exercise out of the book. Some check ins will be announced and others will be a surprise. All check ins will be recorded in class. Students who do not submit their videos will receive a zero. Students who are absent on the day of a check in may submit it the following day. Some check-ins will be graded and some will be for credit. This plan is designed to help you concentrate on a topic or selection that I feel will benefit you. KEEP IN MIND – if you want to be good at your instrument, you need to play regularly. Students who do not have internet at home can record their video at home and upload it at school. **Do NOT delete your videos until you are certain that I have received it.**

1. Written and Playing quizzes 40% of your grade

Students have several assessment opportunities throughout the semester. Some examples are playing quizzes for a grade and/or chair placement or written exams. Playing quizzes will be announced and recorded outside of class, either at home or in a practice room during DEAL or before or after school. Playing quizzes will mostly be recorded; however, students will play some in class or live with the teacher.

2. Performance attendance 40% of your grade

All required performances are mandatory for every band student. Excused absences from performances include:

- Illness with parent/guardian contact
- Family emergency with parent/guardian contact
- Notification of absence at least 2 weeks prior to the performance date by a parent/guardian (family vacation/activity)

If you are excused from the performance, you will need to write an essay and perform a playing test to receive full credit for the absence. It is your responsibility to communicate to the director and your responsibility to arrange make-up work.

Unexcused absences from performances include:

- Illness without parent/guardian contact
- Family Emergency without parent/guardian contact
- Notification of absence less than 2 weeks prior to the performance
- Sports obligations (we can usually work these conflicts out)
- Disinterest

Any unexcused absence cannot be made up and will result in a zero for the performance grade.

Extra Credit

If you attend a concert or musical performance by another musician or group and bring in the program signed by a parent verifying that you went, you can receive 10 points extra credit per performance.

Uniform

In order to make the ZPS Bands look as uniform as possible, we ask all students to follow the dress code below to the best of their ability. Parents, we especially ask you to be involved in helping your child dress properly for performances. *If you need assistance with purchasing any part of the uniform, we would be happy to help, but please give us plenty of notice.* Also, if you have any clothes that you would like to donate to the uniform bank, feel free to send them in with your child. Students who do not come to the performance in uniform will not receive full credit for their performance grade.

7th & 8th Grade Members (same for both years)

CMS band green embroidered golf shirt (\$15) **THESE SHIRTS ARE A NEW DESIGN THIS YEAR**

Black Slacks – solid black

Black shoes with black socks Girls – bare feet are not an option. If you wear slip on shoes you will need black socks or tights on your feet.

***consider that you will be marching in these shoes, please avoid sandals and shoes without backs or ‘slip-ons’**

Please avoid these clothing articles when shopping for uniform parts:

1. Tennis shoes that are not **solid** black – white or red stripes are our biggest enemy!
2. Platform shoes, heels, backless sandals, flip flops or other shoes that are difficult in which to walk (march).
3. Pants should be full length, no capris, or shorts.
4. Pants that are anything but solid black – again no stripes or patterns, please.

2021 - 2022 Performance Schedule and Important Dates

Please mark your family calendar with these dates now. More details for each performance will come out two weeks in advance. These dates are subject to change due to COVID issues.

7th Grade Band

Fall Collage Concert (band, choir, orchestra) 10/5/21 @ 7:30 P.M. in DeWitt Aud.

Winter Concert 12/8/21 7:00 P.M. @ DeWitt Auditorium

Spring Concert 3/29/22 @ 7:00 P.M. in DeWitt Auditorium Please DON'T LEAVE EARLY for Spring Break

Tulip Time Parade 5/12/22 @ 2:00 P.M. Parent Performance: TBA

Memorial Day Parade 5/30/22 @ 9:00 A.M. in Downtown Zeeland

8th Grade Band

Pumpkin Fest Parade 10/2/2021 @ 3:00 P.M. in Downtown Zeeland

Zeeland East/West Football game 10/15/21 @ 7:00 PM @ the stadium

MSBOA All State Auditions 10/21/21 & 10/23/21 at Creekside (volunteer group)

Winter Concert 12/8/21 @ 7:00 P.M. in DeWitt Auditorium

Mid Winter Concert 2/10/22 @ 7:00 P.M. in DeWitt Auditorium

Spring Concert 3/29/22 @ 7:00 P.M. in DeWitt Auditorium Please DON'T LEAVE EARLY for Spring Break

Tulip Time Parade 5/12/22 @ 2:00 P.M. Parent Performance: TBA

Memorial Day Parade 5/30/22 @ 9:00 A.M. in Downtown Zeeland

High School Band Camp info for 8th Graders 7/25-7/29 (pre camp in the evening) & 8/1 - 8/5 (band camp all day) Please put these dates on your family calendar so that you can avoid vacation conflicts. Many students start 8th grade thinking that this may be their last year of band but change their mind as the year progresses. Our high school band has over 200 kids in it because it is fun and rewarding. Band camp is one thing that makes the high school experience even richer. Having these dates so early can help avoid conflicts later. Please take my advice and mark it in your calendar now!

Many important documents will come home through “parent portal” otherwise known as Infinite Campus. Please make sure that you have a current email address with that system so that you receive the communications. Also, if you change email addresses during the year, please contact the main office at Creekside to verify that your email on I.C. is correct.

Commitment Sheet

I have read the goals and expectations and agree to follow the rules and abide by the expectations of the class.

Students Signature

Date

Student Name (printed)

I have read the goals and expectations and understand his/her commitment.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Please sign and return by Wednesday, September 8th.

We are looking forward to starting this year. It is nice to see so many returning students who are excited about making music and having fun. We know this packet has a lot of rules and regulations, but we want everybody to understand the expectations up front so that there are no surprises later. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns, we would be happy to help.

Best wishes,

Mrs. Bier

nbier@zps.org

748-3319

Mrs. Garcia

cgarcia@zps.org

748-3319

SHIRT ORDER FORM - EVERYONE MUST COMPLETE THIS

7th/8th Grade Golf shirt (\$15)

Yth L

Yth XL

Adult S

Adult M

Adult L

Adult XL

Adult XXL

Cash or checks made out to Creekside Band are accepted. Siblings may turn in one form and/or payment. If you pay with cash, please put the money in an envelope with the child's name on the front. Form and money are due by September 8th. Thank you!

