

John Young Advanced Band 2018-2019

General Eighth Grade Band policies:

- 1) Be on time and in your assigned seat. Please do not ask to leave after class has started unless there is an emergency. We will not deny anyone access to the restroom before the bell rings. We will release you to put instruments away with plenty of time before the bell rings. You must return to your seat until the bell. Cell phones visible in this class will be confiscated and given to one of the principals.
- 2) Make sure you know where your assigned locker is located. You *must* store your instrument *and* music in a locker if you are not taking it home to practice. Instruments taken home may be dropped in the band room in the assigned area every morning on the way to your first class between 8:00 am and 8:10 am. You can pick up your instrument after school daily if you wish to practice at home.
- 3) The assigned music is the main textbook in this class. Each student will need to purchase a 1.5 inch binder. We will hole punch all of the music to be inserted and use this as our textbook for the year.
- 4) Be prepared for all playing tests. You will perform the test individually, and your chair placement and grade will be determined by your test performance. *Everyone* can get an A...if you can play the assignment.
- 5) Concert attendance is *mandatory* in order to pass this class. Excuses for concert night illness will be accepted via parent note, phone call or email. Except for sudden illness, having to miss a performance for an excused reason requires two weeks of advance notice to us. If you must miss for an excused reason (such as illness), please be prepared to do a make-up exam. Let us know if you cannot find a ride to the concert. We will arrange carpools with other students in the class. Having an unexcused absence to a performance constitutes a grade of F in band for the entire grading period.
- 6) The ISSMA **Solo and Ensemble** contest is Saturday, February 2, 2019 at Penn High School. This is an *optional* event for students wishing to be adjudicated for medals. Solos, trios, quartets, quintets (no duets) are all acceptable events. We will give class time for students to rehearse. There is a nominal charge for participation. We will distribute additional information, as we get closer to the date of this event. There will be bonus grade points offered to those that participate. Everyone will be *required* to prepare a solo or ensemble for a grade in the class regardless of participation in ISSMA. Students not attending the optional event at Penn on February 2 will perform their solo or ensemble in class.
- 7) The ISSMA **Organizational** contest is Saturday, March 16, 2019. This is a mandatory event just like a concert. The students will travel to Penn High School by bus and perform as a group for a judging panel. We will provide more details about this closer to the event. We do not have a performance time yet – the state will assign this time a couple weeks prior to the performance. Since this is a formal evaluation given by the state, each student is required to wear a white top and dark pants for this event. Please contact us privately if you are unable to acquire these items and we will make arrangements to provide them.
- 8) Classroom participation includes playing *everyday*, having reeds, valve and/or slide oils, music, a pencil and anything else needed for playing in band. If your instrument needs repair, please have a Band Director look it over first. If we can't fix it, we will advise you to take it to a

shop for repair. If you cannot make it to Quinlan and Fabish to purchase any needed supplies, they are willing to deliver items to school for you. Just call 293-6332 and place your order.

9) Class is in session until the band director dismisses you. After putting your instrument away, you will need to be in a seat until you are released. There is no need to line up at the door.

10) We have a list of local private instructors that will be posted on a bulletin board. Private lessons are a great way to get ahead. Please let the directors know if you are interested, and we will get you in touch with the right person.

11) If you do not own your own instrument, there is a \$40.00 per year fee to use a school owned instrument. This money will go toward maintenance and repair. In addition, all percussionists will be assessed a fee of \$40.00 for the upkeep, repair and use of school owned percussion instruments. This is in addition to the snare drum that you already own. Learning to play the bass drum, timpani, mallets and assorted percussion instruments is required this school year. Please make checks payable to John Young Middle School Band.

Grades in band (part of your grade point average) are awarded on the following criteria:

- 1) Daily Participation (with book, music and instrument)
- 2) Regular Playing Tests
- 3) Concert Performances are the most important part of this class. We are leaving the dates somewhat open because we are searching for a larger venue so that we can seat the large bands and more spectators. Please expect a reminder to be sent home well in advance.
 - a) Early December (TBA) 2018 (7:30 pm) Winter Concert in the John Young Gym
 - b) Tour of the Elementary Schools (During school day - date to be announced)
 - c) March 16, 2019 Organization Contest at Penn HS (times TBA)
 - d) Early May (TBA) 2019 (7:30 pm) Spring Concert in the John Young Gym

Please note: If a student is not passing any one or more of their classes two weeks before the date of the tour of the elementary schools, they will not be allowed to leave the building on the day of the tour.

Band is a performance class. Parents: Please come listen to what your child has achieved! Concert attendance is *mandatory* in order to pass this class. Excuses for concert night illness will be accepted via parent note, phone call or email well in advance of the date. If you must miss for an excused reason, please be prepared to do an extensive make-up exam. Except for sudden illness, missing a performance for an excused reason requires two full weeks of advance notice to us. Let us know if you cannot find a ride to the concert. We will arrange carpools with other students in the class. Having an unexcused absence to a performance constitutes a grade of F in band for the entire grading period.

Questions or Concerns? Please call Mr. Gamble or Mr. Chamberlin at 254-3600 ext. 3663

You can also email us at:

gambled@mishawaka.k12.in.us

chamberlinka@mishawaka.k12.in.us

.....Please read this syllabus, sign it, and return this portion ASAP.....

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Yes, I have read the Band Expectations and understand the policies outlined. I understand that I am responsible for getting and maintaining an instrument to play in band, daily participation, and for attending all concert events.

Student name (print)_____

Student signature_____

Parent signature_____Date_____