

Drexler Middle & Intermediate School Band Program

Ms. Maher, 7th and 8th Grade Band Director

Mrs. Waymire, 5th and 6th Grade Band Director

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Philosophy

The bands at Drexler Middle & Intermediate School are designed to empower students to participate in, appreciate, and create music throughout their lives.

Grading Policies

Your band grade is calculated using the following percentages:

Lessons: 20 %

SmartMusic Assignments: 20%

Quizzes and Worksheets: 10%

Performances: 30%

Group Rehearsal: 20%

All assignments, with the exception of the group rehearsal, will be entered into the grade book on a 4 point scale aligned with the DMIS grading scale. A definition of each score is below. Specific examples will be provided with each assignment.

- 4-The student is advanced or meeting grade-level standards with a high level of excellence.
- 3-The student is able to meet grade level expectations.
- 2-The student understands foundational material, but is working to master more complex skills.
- 1-The student has basic abilities on the material being covered.

Lessons are important to help each student achieve their personal best. You will be given an assignment sheet with a grade rubric printed on it. The rubric will be used to assess your improvement. Students are responsible for bringing this form to every session. Lessons are held every week. Students are required to attend. If you are unable to attend during the assigned time, notify the instructor as soon as possible. Missed lessons can be made up by contacting your lesson teacher. Conflicts should be reported as soon as possible so that accommodations may be made.

SmartMusic Assignments are a chance to show how well students are able to perform all of the concepts covered in class. Most weeks, students will have 1 or 2 selections from their book for an assignment. Students will be given lesson time to complete assignments. Each student will receive their individualized assignment list during their first lesson. In order for an assignment to be considered complete, students must earn a score of 70% or higher. The software is also available for purchase for home use if desired. Students may work ahead or redo assignments at any time in a trimester. The grading for SmartMusic assignments will be as follows:

- 9 assignments completed= 4
- 8 assignments completed= 3.33
- 7 assignments completed= 2.67
- 6 assignment completed= 2.0
- 5 assignments completed= 1.33
- 4 or less assignments completed= 0

Quizzes and worksheets will be given periodically throughout the year to enhance and assess understanding over concepts covered in class. This includes performance quizzes. Students will be writing in class every day.

Performances are required unless excused prior to the event. The success of an ensemble is dependent upon the full participation of all students. In reality, there is no way to recreate a missed performance. However, points can be made up for an **excused** absence. Students who are excused from a performance must schedule a playing test with the band director within five school days of their return to receive full credit. **All requests for an absence must be submitted in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the performance when possible.** *Exceptions to the 2 week notice policy may be made for special circumstances.* A student with an unexcused absence is not eligible to make up any points and are not eligible to attend the Adventureland trip at the end of the year. Required performances are included in this handbook.

Group rehearsal grades are based on classroom expectations. Students will be marked on a 4 point grading scale. To earn all 4 points for the rehearsal, students must demonstrate the following:

- Students will be in their assigned seats with their instrument, music, and pencil when class is scheduled to begin.
- Students will demonstrate daily progress.
- Students will follow classroom procedures.

Performance Opportunities

Concert Band

The Concert Band is the heart of the program. Students will make the most individual musical growth in this ensemble. The music consists of a range of band music from an assortment of eras and styles. 6th, 7th and 8th Grade concert attire is a band polo, khaki pants, black socks, and black shoes. An order form for the band polo and all other materials needed for band is included at the back of the handbook. Please return to Ms. Waymire or Ms. Maher by September 2nd.

Marching Band

This is the first group of the year for 7th and 8th grade students. Uniforms are required for these events. We will order polo shirts to serve as uniform tops. Each student will need to have khaki pants, and athletic shoes to complete the uniform.

Jazz Band

This optional group will meet 2nd trimester and into the beginning of 3rd trimester during 10th period. The jazz band is open to any 7th and 8th grade band students as well as any other students at DMIS who may play bass, electric guitar, piano, and drum set. This group will perform on evening concerts and with the high school jazz band. The students learn various styles of music and develop improvisation skills.

Color Guard

Color guard is open to students in 7th and 8th grade. Students enrolled in band have first priority as participation is limited. Attendance is required at all marching band performances.

Honor Bands

There are several honor bands throughout the year. Opportunities are available for students in all grades. Honor bands provide an excellent chance for exceptional musicians to challenge themselves and grow. Students will be nominated based upon their level of achievement and potential for success in this challenging environment.

Solo & Ensemble Festival

Each 6th, 7th, and 8th grade student will participate in the DMIS Solo & Ensemble Festival. All students will be required to participate in a small group or ensemble and have the option to perform a solo. Ensembles will be assigned by the teacher to best serve the needs of each student.

Academic Eligibility

As curricular ensembles, concert band and marching band are not subject to the DMIS Academic Eligibility policy. All other band events including Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, Color Guard, Honor Bands, and the Band Extravaganza are subject to the policy. For clarification refer to the PBIS handbook.

Adventureland

As in past years, music students at DMIS have the opportunity to attend a trip to Adventureland in order to celebrate the musical accomplishments of the bands and choirs. This trip is a **privilege** that must be earned. Students that wish to attend the Adventureland trip must:

1. Maintain a 70% (C-) or higher grade in music classes both semesters.
2. Have 5 or fewer incident reports (major or minor) for the school year.
3. Have no unexcused absences from mandatory performances.

DMIS Music Department Calendar

2016-2017

September 24 th	Wingfest	Farley	7 th & 8 th Band	TBA
October 14 th	Homecoming Parade	Epworth	7 th & 8 th Band	2:00 PM
October 14 th	Homecoming Football Game	Epworth	7 th & 8 th Band	5:30 PM
October 28 th	Loras College Jr High Honor Band	Dubuque	Select 7 th & 8 th Band	All Day
November 2 nd	Choir Concert	WDHS	6 th , 7 th , & 8 th Choir	7:00 PM
November 11 th	Veteran's Day Assembly	DMIS	6 th , 7 th , & 8 th Choir & Band	
November 17 th	Band Concert	WDHS	5 th -8 th Band	7:00 PM
December 3 rd	NEIBA Jr High Honor Band	Oelwein	Select 8 th Band	All Day
January 21 st	Marion Jr High Honor Band	Marion	Select 6 th , 7 th , & 8 th Band	All Day
February 14 th	Choir Concert	WDHS	6 th , 7 th , & 8 th Choir	7:00 PM
February 18 th	Young Musician's Honor Band	Cedar Rapids	Select 5 th & 6 th Band	All Day
February 21 st	5 th Grade Musical	WDHS	5 th Grade Choir	6:30 & 7:30 PM
February 23 rd	Mass Band Concert	WDHS	5-12 Band	7:00 PM
TBD	Band Solo and Ensemble	DMIS	6 th , 7 th & 8 th Band	TBD
TBD	Sinsinawa Honor Choir	Sinsinawa	Select 6 th , 7 th , & 8 th Choir	All Day
April 18 th	NEICDA Honor Choir	Oelwein	Select 7 th & 8 th Choir	All Day
April 25 th	NEICDA Honor Choir	Oelwein	Select 5 th & 6 th Choir	All Day
May 8 th and 9 th	Talent Show Auditions	DMIS	Any Student	3:30-5:00 PM
May 11 th	Choir Solo & Ensemble Festival	DMIS	Select Choir Students	4:00-8:00 PM
May 18 th	Choir Concert	DMIS	6 th , 7 th , & 8 th Choir	7:30 PM
TBA	Band Concert	WDHS	5 th -8 th Band	7:00 PM
May 30 th	Talent Show	TBD	Select Students	
	Talent Show Daytime Performance	DMIS	Select Students	TBD
June TBD	Adventureland	Altoona	Optional 6 th -8 th Music Students	All Day

Drexler Band Supplies Order Form

Name _____

Grade _____

Instrument _____

<u>Item</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Price</u>
Flip Folio (grades 7/8)		\$5
Lyre (grades 7/8)		\$10
Sound Innovations Book 1		\$10
Sound Innovations Book 2		\$10
Music Department Polo (grades 6-8)*		\$10

*DMIS Music Polos will be the uniform for all DMIS music events and are required for students in both band and choir in grades 6-8. Parents may order a shirt for themselves as well.

Total Owed: _____

Polo Size: _____

(Adult Sizes S - 2XL available, THERE ARE NO CHILD SIZES AVAILABLE)

Please send cash or checks payable to DMIS

This form must be returned by FRIDAY, September 2nd

**Please sign and return this form after reading this handbook by
September 2nd.**

I, _____ (student) have read this handbook and understand the rules and expectations of the Drexler Middle and Intermediate School Band.

Please print your name _____

I, _____ (parent) understand the rules and expectations listed in this handbook. I have the schedule of activities for the year.

Please print your name _____