

Centennial Middle School Band Program 2019-2020

*Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and
Beginning Band*



Welcome to the Centennial Middle School Band Program!

I am looking forward to an exciting and fun year. Band is a full-year class because we have so much great music to learn and play. Last year the Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band both made it into **State Junior High Band Festival**. Centennial is the only school with only 7th and 8th graders to consistently have two bands invited to perform at the State Festival. Our goal this year is to get both bands back to the State Festival and to continue to improve their level of performance. Students in the Concert Band and Beginning Band are a very important part of our band program as they prepare to be a part of these great bands moving forward. My goal is for each student to be a successful musician and for every ensemble to sound great as a group.

Students please read and discuss this document with your parents. Please acknowledge that you have read the document by going to the link or QR code at the bottom of the last page by **Monday, August 19 (A Day Classes) or Tuesday, August 20 (B Day Classes)**.

Parents the best things you can do to help your student succeed this year are:

- Encourage your students to practice daily. Practice = repeating over and over small chunks of music (2 notes, 1-2 measures, etc.)
- Encourage them to prepare for pass-offs.

If you have any questions, the best way to contact us by email. Lots of information about the Centennial Band (assignments, dates, etc.) can also be found at timpviewthunderbirdband.com.

Sincerely,

Mr. Werner

Peter Werner
Centennial Middle School
Director of Bands
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Mr. Voght

Marcus Voght
Centennial Middle School
Assistant Band Director
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Supplies and Equipment

Book:

- Method Book – It is recommended that you buy your own so that you can write in the book and use the supplemental cd resources. The school owns books available for check out. Please let us know if you need a book.
 - **All Students:** *Essential Elements for Band, Book 1*
 - **Only Students who have completed the first 32 pass-offs:** *Rubank Intermediate Method*

Pencil (No Pens): Markings in music must be able to be erased.

Metronome/Tuner (recommended, not required; for home use only): Great free or cheap online or mobile apps are available.

Music Stand (recommended, not required; for home use only): Having a music stand at home can make practicing much easier. Wire music stands can be found for as little as \$10. Music stands should not be brought to school.

Instruments:

- Most instruments are rented/purchased from a music store. We strongly recommend Yamaha instruments for their consistency and great sound. **Please email Mr. Werner before purchasing an instrument from the internet or used source. Many cheap “deals” are actually terrible instruments that will make it extremely difficult for your child to succeed.**
- The school has larger instruments (i.e. tubas, euphoniums, french horns, bassoons, and oboes) to rent.
- There are a limited number of other instruments for those who truly cannot afford to rent from a music store. If this is your situation, please contact Mr. Werner about a school instrument. I will make sure that every student who has this need gets an instrument.

Instrument Supplies: (can be purchased at a local music store)

- Flute: Swab (can be a small, thin rag about 1 ft by 1 ft).
- Clarinet: 3-5 working reeds (**Concert Band and Beginning Band: strength 2.5; Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band: strength 3; Mitchell Lurie and Rico Royal brands recommended**) in instrument case at all times, swab, cork grease.
- Oboe: 2-3 working reeds in instrument case at all times (cycle through reeds to keep them working longer), small film canister or similar container to soak reeds, swab.
- Bassoon: 2-3 working reeds in instrument case at all times (cycle through reeds to keep them working longer), small medicine bottle or similar container to soak reeds.
- Saxophone: 3-5 working reeds in instrument case at all times (**Concert Band and Beginning Band: strength 2.5; Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band: strength 3**), swab, cork grease.
- French Horn: Rotary valve oil, slide grease, small rag for cleaning.
- Trumpet: Synthetic valve oil, slide grease, small rag for cleaning.
- Trombone: Slide cream (not oil) and small spray bottle that fits in case or Slide-O-Mix, slide grease, small rag for cleaning.
- Euphonium/Tuba: Synthetic valve oil, slide grease, small rag for cleaning.

Grading Policy

Playing Skills (60%)

- *Playing Tests/Pass-offs (50%)*
 - Students will be required to complete 2-4 pass-offs each term.
 - Pass-offs will take place during class every 3-4 weeks.
 - Students must receive a minimum score to move on to the next pass-off.
 - Retakes will happen during PLUS on NG days (Wednesdays and Thursdays) and before/after school.
 - Before retaking a test students must complete at least 30 practice repetitions on that exercise and turn in a parent-signed retake form to Mr. Werner.
 - Occasionally, students may be asked to play a portion of their concert music to check their preparation.
- *Practice Logs (10%)*
 - Students will have their practice log checked on the last day of class for the week (either Thursday or Friday).
 - Students are expected to complete multiple repetitions of method book, technique, and concert music assignment.
 - In addition to practice students must listen to at least one song performed by a professional musician who plays their instrument. A list of musicians can be found on the back of the practice log. Recordings can be found on YouTube.
 - Late practice logs will still receive credit for the number of repetitions completed.

Theory Assignments (20%)

- Note name and fingering pass-offs, rhythm tests, and written activities completed in class.
- Students must receive a minimum score to move on to the next pass-off.
 - Retakes will happen during PLUS on NG Days (Wednesdays and Thursdays) and before/after school.
- The following apps can be purchased at home for additional practice (not required):
 - NinGenius (Student Version – \$0.99): Instrument fingering and note naming.
 - Musictheory.net (Free)/Tenuto App (\$3.99): Music theory and note name practice.
- *DVD Assignments:*
 - There will be some DVD's shown in class during the school year. These lessons are designed to help students gain an understanding of musicians' and composers' lives, musical concepts, and view outstanding performances.

Performances (20%)

- Performance is one of the National and State Curriculum Standards for learning music. Students are expected to attend and participate in all performances and demonstrate great concert etiquette.
 - ***All students must arrive 30 minutes before the concert to warm-up.***
- The Centennial Middle School Band is a group where each person is important. Each day is spent learning how to play as a group as we listen, tune, and balance to others. Absence of one individual makes a big difference in this process.
 - Absences will only be excused for major events (i.e. weddings, funerals, etc.) and illness. Notification must be provided **at least 30 days prior to the concert or rehearsal** so an appropriate make-up assignment can be given and parts can be reassigned if necessary.

- Because percussionists meet in a separate class, at least one mandatory after school rehearsal will be held before each performance.
 - It is so important that each student is at the after school rehearsal. This experience cannot be accomplished by practicing more on your own, since it is our only chance to practice with all of the parts together. Consequently, there is no make-up available.
- Rehearsal and performance dates are provided in a different document.
- **Concert Dress:**
 - Ladies: White blouse with a black skirt/hose or pants and socks/shoes.
 - Men: White dress shirt with a tie and black pants/socks/shoes.
 - **No denim, No T-shirts, No sandals, No bare feet/legs.**



Grading Scale

A	93-100%	B-	80-82%	D+	67-69%
A-	90-92%	C+	77-79%	D	63-66%
B+	87-89%	C	73-76%	D-	60-62%
B	83-86%	C-	70-72%	I	0-59%

Attention: Students with Disabilities

- If you have any disability that may keep you from successfully completing this course, please contact Mr. Werner. Academic accommodations are granted for all students who have qualified, documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor through the main office.

Fees

Class Fee - \$12 (paid with student fees)

Lost Combination Lock - \$5

Lost Book - \$10

Disclosure Document Signature

To get credit for having read the disclosure document please fill out the information at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/gj2ieZRxC1nKr6q48>

