



Jenison Junior High Band
Handbook
2011-2012
www.jenisonbands.org

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Jenison Junior High Band 2011-2012 Performance Schedule

Report time for students is 30 minutes prior to all performances!

If any of these dates change, you will be notified in writing. Underlined events are required.

Homecoming Dinner and Performance-Required for 8th Grade Only!

Friday, September 23, 5:00 pm Dinner, Pre-Game/Half-time Performance. Dismissed after half-time

Annual Band Booster Concert-Fairhaven Church

Thursday, October 27, 7:00 pm Concert for 6th, 7th, 8th, and HS Marching Band

Optional MSBOA All-State Band Auditions-Extra Credit

Thursday, October 27 or Saturday, October 29 at East Kentwood HS

Christmas Concert-Fairhaven Church

Thursday, December 8, 6:30 pm Concert for the Jr. High Bands and Orchestras
(Jr. High Choir Concert starts at 8:00 at the same location)

Jr. High Band Marathon and Lock-In-Jenison Jr. High

Friday, January 6, Time TBA (Approximately 5pm-Midnight)

Pre-Festival Concert-Fairhaven Church

Thursday, February 23, 6:30 pm Concert for the Jr. High Bands
(HS Band Concert begins at 8:00 at the same location)

MSBOA District Festival-Location and time TBA (typically during the school day)

March 1 or 2, Performance for the Jr. High Bands

Junior High Jazz Band Performance at Showcase-Jr. High Cafeteria

Thursday, March 22, 5:00 pm Performance at the JH Showcase by our Jazz Band

Optional District 10 Solo & Ensemble-Extra Credit for Students

Saturday, April 14, Location and time TBA

Spring Awards Concert - Fairhaven Church

Tuesday, May 15 7:30 pm Concert for 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Bands

Memorial Day Parade-Required for 8th Grade Only!

Monday, May 28, 9:00 am Parade Performance

*****GRADING POLICY*****

Grades are earned from the following four areas.

25% Practice

A daily practice chart will be provided as a page in your assignment notebook. The first day of each week your assignment notebook will be collected at the beginning of the hour and recorded by a parent volunteer. Parents must sign each week's practice time. **No time will be recorded unless a parental signature accompanies the practice time.** Late practice time will only be collected if the student was absent on Monday. A weekly practice grade will be given from the chart below. The final practice grade will be an average of all the weekly grades.

MINUTES OF PRACTICE TIME PER WEEK

| | | |
|----------|---------|---------|
| A : 120 | B- : 80 | D+ : 40 |
| A- : 110 | C+ : 70 | D : 30 |
| B+ : 100 | C : 60 | D- : 20 |
| B : 90 | C- : 50 | |

25% Behavior

Good self-discipline is rewarded. Students are expected to be quiet while the director is working with other sections or individuals. Students will not disturb the class in any manner. Each incident will reduce the behavior grade which begins at an A for each marking period. Gum, candy, or food will not be allowed in the band room for the protection of the instruments, carpet, and classroom equipment.

25% Testing and Assignments

Individual playing tests, in-class listening logs, class assignments, and notes sent home for parent signatures will constitute 25% of the student grade. Playing tests offer the directors the opportunity to hear students individually and offer suggestions. Students will be required to return their playing test with a parent signature.

25% Concert Attendance

Maximum credit can be earned in this section by attending the full length of the concert, arriving on time, being in full uniform, having all required equipment, and of course behaving with appropriate concert etiquette both on and off stage.

Extra Credit can be earned by performing in one of the extra credit performances, attending concerts that include live musicians (bring in program or parent note), or other specific opportunities that may be announced.

*****CONCERT ATTENDANCE POLICY*****

YOUR ATTENDANCE AT ALL PERFORMANCES IS REQUIRED. WHEN YOU GET THIS HANDBOOK HOME, PLEASE PUT THE DATES ON YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR TO AVOID ALL POSSIBLE CONFLICTS. A concert or band festival is considered a major test in band. Plan ahead so that work, vacations, sports, and other activities do not conflict with our concerts. If a conflict cannot be resolved, and you must miss a concert, I must be notified by a parent in writing **AT LEAST TWO WEEKS** before the concert. This is imperative for the sake of our band and late letters will not be accepted. We will then work out an assignment that will allow you to make up the concert points.

As always, I understand that emergencies and illnesses will occur. In this case, a simple phone call from a parent within 24 hours of the concert will be needed in order for the student to be allowed to make up the points. If a student simply does not show up for a concert, they will lose all concert points and will not have an opportunity to make them up.

*****JUNIOR HIGH BAND EXPECTATIONS*****

Playing in band takes a highly organized and disciplined person. The students and teacher must strive to make our band room a safe and protected environment where students can come to learn without fear. Therefore we will follow the rules and consequences outlined below.

Rules

1. *Show respect to the teachers you have in band class.*
 - a. Listen carefully to what your teachers say.
 - b. Enter and leave class on time, following the correct procedures shown to you.
 - c. Follow directions given.
 - d. Communicate with your band directors!
2. *Show respect to others and their property.*
 - a. Listen carefully when they have a question to ask.
 - b. Strive to work as a team, not individual performers.
 - c. Do not touch or move others' property unless given permission.
3. *Show respect for school property*
 - a. No eating, drinking, or chewing gum in the band room. Students are allowed to have a sealed water bottle in class.
 - b. Use your instrument only! Do not play on any other instrument unless given permission.
 - c. Remember that your chair is for sitting, and your stand is for holding music. All other uses of chairs and stands are unacceptable!
4. *Show promptness and preparation*
 - a. Be in the classroom by the time the bell rings and in your seat 2 minutes after the bell rings.
 - b. When the director steps on the podium, it is time to start class.
 - c. Have everything you need for rehearsal at your seat. (Instrument, music, folder, **pencil**, oil, etc)
 - d. Bring your own music to mark. Do not rely on your stand partner.

Consequences

1. Warning
Students will receive a visual or verbal warning that they are not following class rules or procedures. Students will also receive a deduction in the classroom behavior grade.
2. 7th Hour
Students may have to serve a 7th hour after school with one of the band directors for repeated problems in class. Students will typically serve this on the day following the problem behavior.
3. Call Home/ Saturday School
Parents will be contacted to discuss solutions for their student's behavior if the behavior becomes a repeated problem. Saturday School may also be a consequence at this point.
4. Office Conference
The principal, teacher, parents, and student will meet to discuss solutions to the student's current problem behavior.

RESPECT is the key to a good life in the Jenison Junior High School Band!

*****INSTRUMENT LOCKERS AND LOCKS*****

An individual instrument locker will be assigned to you to store your instrument at school. **All students must purchase a lock through the Band Boosters for a cost of \$6.00** which will be used at the Junior High and High School band rooms. The band director will have a master key if a parent comes to school to get their child's instrument along with a list of lock combinations if a student forgets their combination.

*****INSTRUMENTS*****

School-owned, as well as student-owned instruments, must be kept in good playing condition at all times. You are personally held responsible for your instrument, whether school or privately owned. Repairs should be made immediately when necessary. If you are having a problem with your instrument, please bring it to the attention of the director so it can be determined if any repairs are needed.

- 1) Do not leave anything unattended where it might be stolen or damaged.
- 2) Insure all privately owned instruments with your parents' homeowners or renters insurance policy.
- 3) Keep a record of the serial number, model and make.
- 4) Be sure your name appears on the outside and the inside of your case. Ask your director for a name tag.
- 5) Keep your instrument in top condition. Regular oiling, cleaning and polishing is a must. Check with the director, however, before using any special cleaners. A damp cloth will work well in most cases. This includes school horns. Cleaning materials, oils and slide grease are the responsibility of the student using a school horn.
- 6) Students will be expected to replace any part of a school instrument that is broken by careless use or deliberately defaced.
- 7) Drummers are required to supply their own drum sticks and mallets. A letter will be sent home at the beginning of the year to purchase these required mallets.
- 8) Instruments must be put inside the case and case latched when not in use.
- 9) Do not store music or folders inside instrument cases. It can damage your instrument.

*****UNIFORMS*****

It is required that all band members obtain **black dress pants, black shoes, and black socks. Each student will be given information for purchasing a black polo shirt during the first week of school which must be purchased for a cost of \$15.00.** Please comply with these requirements because it will make us look uniform and it will reflect the pride that we have within our group. If there is a problem regarding the uniform, bring it to the attention of the director immediately. Please do not appear at a concert without the proper uniform.

*****MUSIC*****

Music will be issued by the school except for Solo and Ensemble material. We do maintain a file of Solo and Ensemble music for reference. It is assumed that all students will respect and maintain the condition of the sheet music that they will receive for band. Folders are provided and are expected to be used. While at school, music folders must be stored in your locker or in your instrument locker in the band room. Music stuffed in instrument cases can damage an instrument and ruin sheet music. Music should be returned in the same condition that it was issued. **Lost music must be replaced by the student at the rate of \$1 per part and books at cost.** Mark your music with pencil only when putting in notes or fingerings.

*****DISTRICT 10 SOLO AND ENSEMBLE*****

This festival is optional for all students. The date for this event is April 16. Please ask your director for help in selecting a piece of music if you do not take private lessons. Students are responsible for getting their own accompanists, but your director can help you find one. The entry deadline is December 16.

*******STUDENT CREDITS*******

Student credit is earned through participation in Band Booster sponsored fund raisers. Credit is then used by students to defray the cost of band camp, band trips, and any other items approved by the band director. Monthly student credit sheets will be posted in the Junior and Senior High band rooms along with updates at www.jenisonbands.org. If a student drops band or graduates with a balance in his or her account, he or she may transfer the balance to a sibling. Credits will not be returned to the student in the form of cash, check, gift certificate, or any like vehicle. The sole purpose of student credit is to reduce the financial burden of camps, trips and related musical items while a student is in band.

*******PRIVATE LESSONS*******

We have many students who take private lessons on their instruments both in the summer and during the school year. Private lessons can help you to play better and enjoy music more. Lessons are highly encouraged. Ask your band director for assistance in getting started. Persons who take private lessons usually develop into some of Jenison's most proficient performers and leaders.

*******PRIVATE LESSONS REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM*******

Your private lesson teacher will determine if your lesson is prepared. For every lesson prepared, the Band Boosters will deposit \$3.00 into your student credit account. At the front of the band room, on the band bulletin board, you can locate a sheet which is to be filled out by your private instructor. This sheet must be turned in each semester to receive your rebate.

*******SCRIP PROGRAM*******

This is a great way to help support the Jenison Band Program and benefit yourself at the same time. By using SCRIP, you will be able to earn credits to defer the costs of any band activity that your child is involved with (pay for band camp, band equipment, trips, etc.). The band organization gets the vital funds necessary to support band activities. Everyone can participate from Junior High to Band Alumni, relatives and friends. The more people who participate, the more can be earned for the students and the band program. For Junior High band members, this is an opportunity to get an account set up to offset future high school band costs. Scrip can be ordered and picked up on Monday evenings from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Jenison High School Band Room.

*******PHILOSOPHY OF JENISON BAND BOOSTERS*******

The booster group was organized to give financial and moral support to all bands in the Jenison Public Schools. Financial support is provided so the bands can have some of the extras in the area of equipment, uniforms, and staffing. These funds are generated by various fund raising projects. The boosters give moral support by volunteering for any of several committees, chaperoning a trip, or helping with any booster project. The booster group was organized under the premise that parents would give freely of their time and effort so that students involved in instrumental music could gain the best possible musical experience while in school. Band Booster meetings are held in the High School Media Center at 7:00, typically on the third Tuesday of each month. Dates for the 2011-2012 school year are: Sept 20, Oct 18, Nov 15, Jan 17, Feb 21, Mar 20, Apr 17, May 22, and June 12.