

6th Grade Band

2019-2020 6th Grade Band Calendar

- **6th Grade Band Concert** - Tuesday, November 5, 7:00 pm, MHS PAC
- **BAND-O-RAMA** - Saturday, February 15, 2020, time TBA, MHS 'A' Gym
- **6th Grade Band Concert** - Thursday, May 28, 2020, 7:00 pm, MHS PAC

Class Structure

6th Grade Band is taught by a team of three teachers, Mr. Hartson, Mr. Petersen, and Mr. Vanderbloemen. Each student will have experiences in both **Large Group** and **Small Group** Instruction.

Large Group Instruction - Mr. Vanderbloemen teaches this class, which is scheduled for either Day 1 or Day 2 from 1:30 pm - 2:00 pm. Students in 6th Grade Band will be assigned to one of these two days.

The classes are large (50+ students!), and will have students learning all instruments available in 6th Grade Band. The learning in these classes will primarily focus on "Big Picture" concepts - rhythmic skills, melodic skills, performing music together, and many other topics.

Small Group instruction - Each 6th Grade Band student will be assigned to a small group, which will consist of 1-5 students studying the same instrument. The focus of these groups will be the specific technique and practice skills needed to have success learning each specific instrument. This is the place where students learn the 'ins and outs' of their selected instrument - the best place to ask questions specific to their instrument.

Mr. Hartson, Mr. Petersen, and Mr. Vanderbloemen will each have a number of Small Groups that meet each week. This schedule will be posted before the 6th Grade departs for Timber Lee. The Small Groups meet weekly at either 1:00 pm or 1:30 pm.

Classroom Rules/Expectations

We don't articulate a long list of rules, because we feel that by 6th Grade, certain things should be held as given, please feel free to consult your IMMS Family Handbook for all of the behavior expectations at IMMS, these are no different in the Band Room.

We do, however, have two unique and specific expectations of all band students, and for future reference - they don't change between now and the day the student graduates from High School...

1. **No Chewing Gum** - Gum is not allowed in the Band Room for any reason, at any time (school hours, before school, after school). It can be a hazard to the student and instrument.

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2. **The Podium Rule** - Very simple and easy to remember - if there is a Teacher (or any adult) on the Podium, it is expected that students will become quiet, listen, follow directions, and work efficiently.

That's it, two rules. Questions? Please ask.

Academic Grading

You will see grades for 6th Grade Band on your Infinite Campus report card. These grades will be determined through Assessment of the skills taught in class. Here's a brief outline of those skills:

- I. **Instrumental Technique** - the development of the skills necessary to perform well on a specific instrument
- II. **Tone** - producing an excellent tone is the foundation of succeeding on a musical instrument, it is by far our biggest area of focus
- III. **Accuracy** - this is all about learning to play the right note at the right time, we will assess Melodic and Rhythmic Accuracy
- IV. **Musical Literacy** - is learning how to interpret the symbols on the printed page, and create music
- V. **Rehearsal Technique** - beyond what types of behavior choices a student makes, learning proper Rehearsal Techniques will help each student develop the skills needed to be successful

Conduct and Effort

In Band Classes, **Conduct** is the among the choices students make on a daily basis. Behavior is a choice - the best way to determine if the conduct a student chooses is appropriate is to ask, "Is this behavior helpful or harmful to the progress of the class?"

Effort is an entirely different topic - also a choice - attending Small Group Lessons is a choice, having all the proper materials in class daily is a choice.

Conduct and Effort are assessed daily in the classroom.