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BAND INFORMATION HANDBOOK

Hello Athey Creek Band Families!

WELCOME TO BAND! We are in for an amazing year! I always get so excited to see new faces and the return of familiar ones every fall. The musical growth of our musicians over the last few years has been amazing. Last year we performed and represented our school all over the region: from our local schools in West Linn to Clackamas and Mt. Hood Community Colleges, to Oaks Park and the Junior Rose Parade in Portland, and Wild Waves in the Seattle area. I can’t wait to jump back in to all the experiences and friendships that make band such a great class! Thanks for joining us and representing our tradition of excellence!

As always, my job is to provide every student and every family the best music experience possible! Please never hesitate to get in touch for any reason if there’s anything I can ever do to help. Music is a VERY different type of class with extra responsibilities and reliance on every member of our team, so communication is extra important: I am here to help coordinate and find solutions for anything that comes up! My info is below.

You might think there would be a lot more to know about band - and you’re right! Our first assignment this year is for students AND parents to head over to Google Classroom together to look over additional information that’s important for our year in band. Students should already have access but just in case, here are the codes which can be input using the “+” sign at classroom.google.com:

P1 (Symphonic): 52zez2k

P2 (Beginning): du2g7we

P3 (Beginning): 36k4l6k

P4 (Concert): 2cepjxk

P5 (Concert): yooqao

**Please return the final page of this document and read through the Google Classroom items by September 7.**

Thank you!

Ryan Uldall

Athey Creek MS Band Director

uldallr@wlwv.k12.or.us

503-673-7415 x 5418

**INFO SOURCES/THINGS TO KNOW**

* **Google Classroom!**  Assignments and much teacher/student communication will be through this platform.
* **Social Media:**  Follow us on Instagram @atheycreekband. Mr. Uldall is in charge of all postings.  If you would prefer your student to not have their picture posted, there is a section on the handbook assignment to opt out.
* **Communication Home:**  I will be using email through Synergy to keep parents connected to the band program, so please keep your email address updated with the office and with me and check it regularly.
* **Band Website: tinyurl.com/atheycreekband.** Will include our performance calendar and much of the information you are reading in this handbook for future reference. Jot it down!

# BAND EXPECTATIONS & GRADING

**How is a Band Student Graded?**

**Progress on your instrument**

You will be setting your own goals with teacher guidance and self-reflecting on your progress on your instrument, along with demonstrating to the teacher. In general, with a special skill like learning a musical instrument, a practice commitment of 100 minutes per week is expected. In class, we will go over more specifically how to meet students’ individual goals with their instrument. The best way to do this is to set a routine that will allow for at least this much practice. 20-30 minutes a day with a few days of rest will work well.

* Parents, please help by keeping an ear out for regular practice, and an eye on your email and your student’s Google Classroom. Students will make reflections on progress for you to see regularly.

**Music Literacy**

Notes, rhythms, lots of fun new information will be covered and quizzed in class from time to time.

**Performances**

Concert performances (usually about an hour long, 2-3 times a year in the evening) are very important for everyone to plan on attending. A performance group needs all its players! The concert is a culmination of many important graded parts (contribution to the group, hearing and adjustment in a live setting, being an audience to other groups, and of course…the actual performance of music!) These can individually be made up through (extensive) make-up work, but being able to attend all concerts unless an emergency arises is the best case scenario for all band members. Please request make-up work **at least 2 weeks in advance** to give ample time for completion and to prepare the group to cover parts for absent members - emergency circumstances only please.

In general, very high grades are super easy if students:

* Bring instruments and music to class every day
* Take home their instrument to practice
* Have a pencil on their music stand
* Bring their best effort to class
* Show up to concerts
* Keep a positive attitude when challenges come up
* Treat others with respect

I believe in every student’s ability to be a super valuable band member and contribute to some amazing performances this year!



* If you’re not sure what/how to practice something, I am always available to help!

# STUDENT AND PARENT BAND CONTRACT (Tear off and return this page)

Student’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_\_ Class Period\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Instrument (if known) \_\_\_\_\_\_

Student T-Shirt Size (adult size assumed unless otherwise noted) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents’ Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: *Home/Cell \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Work \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

Parent email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **(please check your email regularly)**

***Both the student and parent agree to:***

* Read every page of the handbook (including the part linked electronically).
* Collect all the materials needed for band, including concert uniform
* Keep all materials, including instrument and music, in excellent condition
* Arrange transportation for all concerts and events
* Make time for practice at home
* Follow all classroom expectations
* **Be part of a year-long band class**

**STUDENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***\*Parents, if you are available to help with any of the following duties, please indicate below so we can contact you when needed:***

\_\_\_Chaperone for field trips

\_\_\_Assist at concerts (supervision, setup, etc)

\_\_\_Make phone calls

\_\_\_Organization (uniforms, materials, etc.)

\_\_\_Distribute band information to primary school: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Times available: (circle) Mornings Afternoons Evenings /Weekends

**Permission for School Field Trips**

In order for my child, a minor, to take part in and receive the advantages of a program planned and sponsored by West Linn-Wilsonville School District, Clackamas County, Oregon, I hereby give permission for them to participate in any or all of the trips included in the band program at Athey Creek Middle School for the 2022-2023 school year as outlined in this handbook.

I further acknowledge that transportation will be provided by the School District as is approved by the Superintendent.

I grant permission for my child to be photographed and video/audio taped in conjunction with these activities/performances.

I authorize West Linn-Wilsonville School District and its employees to secure the services of a physician or hospital in the event of an accident or illness, and I assume responsibility for the expenses and will provide repayment of these costs. 

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date

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Emergency phone Emergency Phone #2 (optional)