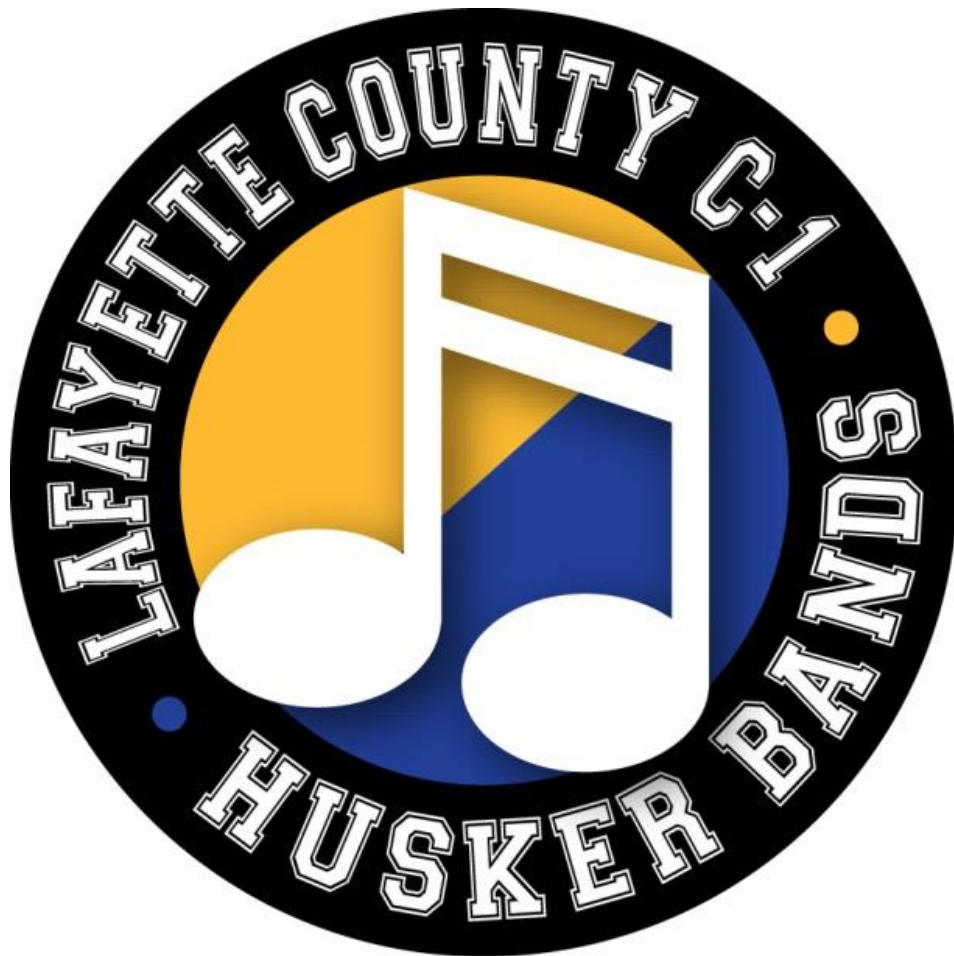


*Lafayette County C-1 Middle School
Instrumental Music Handbook*



2021-2022

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This instrumental music handbook has been written for the Lafayette County C-1 Middle School Band members and their parents in order to provide information regarding the classroom environment, expectations, and activities of the instrumental music program at Lafayette County C-1 Middle School. The manual also contains the policies and regulations of the band. All band members and their parents are required to read the entire manual carefully to avoid conflicts with the policies and rules stated herein.

MATERIALS NEEDED EACH DAY FOR CLASS

6th grade:

1. Instrument in good playing condition (this includes cleaning supplies, reeds for clarinet players, and slide grease/valve oil for brass players)
2. Essential Elements 2000 Book 1
3. Pencil
4. One folder with two pockets and three brads in the center

7th grade:

1. Instrument in good playing condition (this includes reeds for clarinets and saxophones, slide grease/valve oil for brass)
2. Essential Elements 2000 Book 1 (*we will transition to a new book during the school year and I will send information home regarding the switch when the time comes*)
3. Pencil
4. One folder with two pockets and three brads in the center

8th grade:

1. Instrument in good playing condition (this includes sticks/mallets for percussion, reeds for clarinets and saxophones, slide grease/valve oil for brass)
2. Accent on Achievement – Book 2
 - a. **This is a new book.** I have copies on order from the music company that will be available in the band room, or you can search and find the book online if you prefer to order via that method. To purchase at school, the cost for the book is \$9 and students can bring cash in a labeled envelope or a check made out to “Lafayette County C-1”
3. Pencil
4. One folder with two pockets and three brads in the center

Percussion Class:

1. Method Books – Mallet Players Toolbox and Snare Drummers Toolbox
 - a. **These books are published by “Row-Loff Productions” if you would like to search and purchase on your own. I will put together a group order which will be placed the second Friday of school (August 27th). One book is \$15 and the other is \$16, so a total cost of \$31. If you would like to purchase through our group order, please send cash in a marked envelope or a check made out to “Lafayette County C-1” with your student prior to August 27th.**

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. When you enter the classroom, sit in your spot and wait for instructions for the day. Do not enter the locker room during this time.
2. Come prepared with all supplies listed above each day
 - Please note that students who fail to bring their instruments will lose all rehearsal technique points for the day. Students will still be expected to following along in the book with the class and may be asked to work on an alternate assignment if they are distracting others in class. If a student's instrument is in the shop for repairs, he or she will be expected to bring a signed note from a parent or guardian stating the situation.
3. Raise your hand if you have a question or would like to say something
4. Be respectful, positive, and supportive of fellow classmates
5. There should not be any food or drink, other than water, in the band room at any time. (Chewing gum during class will result in a tardy)

BAND LOCKERS

1. Each student will be assigned a band locker.
2. Each student will be provided with a lock for his or her locker. Note: If a student loses or damages his or her lock, he or she will be responsible for replacing the lock.
3. Students are responsible for ensuring their locker remains locked at all times to ensure their belongings are kept safe.
4. Students will be able to bring instruments to the band room before school and pick them up to take home after school.
5. It is expected that students keep their band locker clean and free from clutter. Food, supplies for other classes, or extra items not needed during band class should not be kept in the band locker.

CONCERT DRESS

Band is a performance, skill based class. As such, the final performance (concert) serves as the formative assessment for the semester and it is important that we look professional and proud of our accomplishments! For concerts, students will be asked to dress up. This includes dress pants, a polo or button down top, blouses, and dresses. Please **DO NOT** wear tennis shoes, athletic pants, flip flops, or t-shirts. If you need assistance obtaining any of these items, please contact Mrs. Reuther no less than one week prior to the concert date.

USE OF SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS

The school district does everything that it can to provide you, as a member of the instrumental music program, with quality equipment, particularly those items that are too large or expensive for individual purchasing, such as baritones, tubas, etc. Many of the school owned instruments cost several thousand dollars each. If you are playing a school instrument, feel fortunate. Many schools are unable to provide their students with these items. While a school owned instrument

is in your possession, you are directly responsible for its care and safety. The school will cover minor repairs and preventive maintenance. However, if the instrument becomes damaged due to your negligence, you will be held financially responsible for the repairs that must be made to return that instrument to playing condition.

This policy applies to percussion instruments as well. Make sure you always use the proper mallets or sticks for the instrument you are playing. Return all instruments to their proper location at the end of every rehearsal. We have many instruments in our room, they are not toys, please treat them as such. If you notice a problem, bring it to the director's attention immediately. Students who are not assigned as percussionists are not to touch the percussion instruments for any reason. Doing so will result in an office referral.

School owned instruments will be distributed at the discretion of the director. Students who are issued a school instrument must complete a "School Instrument Contract".

GRADING

Performance Assessments: 50 points each

Assessments will take place throughout the year. Students will be notified at least a week prior to the assessment. Please make sure your student is practicing for these assessments.

Assessments will focus on one or several specific areas (depending upon the intent of the assessment): posture, tone quality, rhythm, dynamics, phrasing, note accuracy, articulation, and memorization. Playing assessments will be done in class. If a student would like to re-take a playing test, they may do so outside of class time and within one week of receiving their original score.

Rehearsal Techniques: 10 points per class period

Daily points will be awarded based on class participation (contributes to class discussion, sings/plays at the appropriate time), has all materials, is ready when rehearsal begins, uses correct posture, and maintains a positive/working presence towards the learning environment.

One grace day will be given to any student that forgets his or her instrument and/ or music without penalty. However, failure to bring your instrument and/or music anytime thereafter will result in a reduction of daily points to an amount of zero.

Performances: 200 points per performance

Due to the performance based nature of the band curriculum, concerts serve as our summative assessment, or "final exam." Therefore, attendance at these events is required and MANDATORY.

Any excused absence from a performance will require the student to complete a make-up assignment (see below). The make-up assignment will be due one week after the missed

performance. In order to receive an excused absence from a performance, Mrs. Reuther must be notified prior to the performance. Mrs. Reuther will determine if the absence will be excused or not. Students are responsible for arriving at each performance on time and properly prepared. Students are required to be punctual and attend all performances. Points will be deducted for tardiness, inappropriate concert attire, or poor behavior during a concert. *Please contact Mrs. Reuther prior to the concert if you do not have a ride, appropriate clothing, or an emergency arises.*

Make-Up Assignment

Should a student have an excused absence at a performance, they must schedule a time to meet with Mrs. Reuther to perform their concert music on their own. They may also record themselves performing their concert music on their own and submit the recording to Mrs. Reuther. Students will be allowed one week to submit a make-up assignment. Students will be graded using the standard performance rubric used on all singing tests.

Students may attend other local or regional concerts presented around the area and may earn extra credit by bringing in the program and a short performance review (two paragraphs, 5 sentences each). If a student performs in an area recital or for church, extra credit will be given when a copy of the program or church bulletin is turned in.

Written Work: Varied point values

Throughout this course, students will complete a variety of written work to enrich their understanding of musical concepts. These materials may consist of, but are not limited to, the following: goal setting, theory practice, personal journaling, quality comparison, daily drill activities.

2021-2022 Calendar of Events

Dates are subject to change and may be added. In such instance, every attempt will be made to give at least two weeks notice.

As mentioned above, attendance at events is required, please make sure to mark these dates on your calendar early to avoid conflicts!

Tuesday, December 14, 7:00 pm - Winter Band and Choir Concert - East Gym

Monday, April 25, 7:00 pm - Spring Band and Choir Concert - East Gym

BAND SYLLABUS VERIFICATION FORM

Please sign below and return to class by August 27th, 2021:

I have read and reviewed all of the band policies (handbook has been sent out via email, let me know if you did not receive it or would prefer a paper copy) and I understand that it is a privilege to be a part of this program. I know that by signing this form I have agreed to uphold these policies and have accepted the responsibility to attend all performances and activities in which the band participates.

Student: _____ Date: _____

Guardian(s): _____ Date: _____