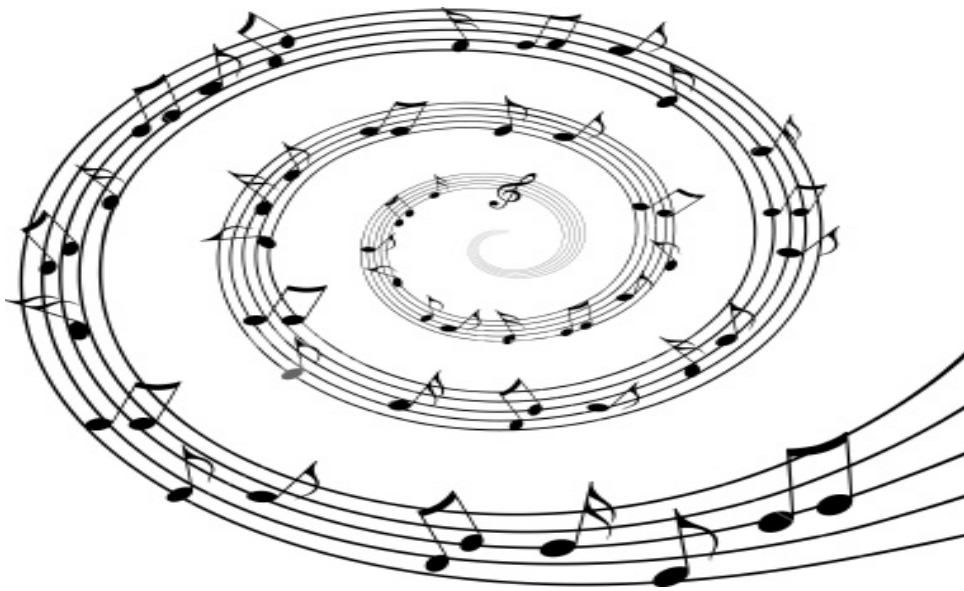


# TMS BAND HANDBOOK

6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade



After reading through the Band Handbook with your child, please sign and return the form below.  
*\*Return by Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015.*

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TMS Band Handbook 2015-2016  
Due Friday, August 28, 2015

We have read and understand the contents of the School Band Handbook.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# CLASS SYLLABUS

*Mrs. Laura Gipson (377-7240 ext. 137)*

[lgipson@bethalto.org](mailto:lgipson@bethalto.org)

[www.lauragipson.weebly.com](http://www.lauragipson.weebly.com)

## **Middle School Band:**

Full Band Class will meet daily as an ENCORE class. Students will be graded on classroom participation, attitude / behavior, vocabulary and rhythm tests, concert / contest participation, sectionals, and solo / ensemble participation.

Students are required to attend the Christmas and Spring Concert.

**Concert dates:** Winter Concert- Wednesday, December 16, 2015 @ CMHS gymnasium  
Spring Concert –Tuesday, May 10, 2016 @ CMHS gymnasium

**All students are required to attend both concerts.** *Reminder letters will be sent home 2 weeks prior to the concerts.*

## **6<sup>th</sup> Grade List of Supplies:**

- Method Book – Will finish “Tradition of Excellence Bk. 1” from last year
- “Foundations for Superior Performance) (Order Form attached)
- 3-ring binder 1/2”
- 30 clear sheet protectors
- Pencil (no INK)!
- Dry Erase Markers for sheet-protector writing (optional)
- Smart Music (order form attached – optional but highly recommended)

## **7<sup>th</sup> Grade List of Supplies:**

- “Tradition of Excellence Book 2” (Order Form attached)
- “Foundations for Superior Performance) (Order Form attached)
- 3-ring binder 1/2”
- 30 clear sheet protectors
- Pencil (no INK)!
- Dry Erase Markers for sheet-protector writing (optional)
- Smart Music (order form attached – optional but highly recommended)

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade List of Supplies:**

- “Technique and Musicianship” (Order Form attached)
- “Foundations for Superior Performance (Order Form attached)
- 3-ring binder 1/2”
- 30 clear sheet protectors
- Pencil (no INK)!
- Dry Erase Markers for sheet-protector writing (optional)
- Smart Music (order form attached – optional but highly recommended)

*For specific instrument needs, see page 6.*

### **Concert Attire:**

*Ladies: white blouse (tucked in or tailored), black slacks or long skirt (must reach ankles), black socks/hose, black dress shoes (low heel)*

*Gentlemen: white dress shirt, tie, black slacks, black socks, black dress shoes.*

### **Private Lessons:**

There is nothing else I can think of which improves a student's playing abilities more than having private lessons. If your child is interested in taking lessons privately, please feel free to contact me for a list of available instructors.

## **INSTRUMENTAL CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT**

### **Behavioral Expectations:**

1. Treat Others As You Would Like To Be Treated.
2. Respect your Director, Peers, and Instrument.
3. Be on Time for Class / Performances and Be Prepared.
4. Gum, Candy, Food, and Drinks will NOT be allowed in the Music Room unless noted otherwise by the director.
5. Give me 100% and I'll give you 100% - that I can PROMISE you.

### **Pride Skills:**

1. Take PRIDE in yourself and all that you do.
2. Take PRIDE in the music room. Keep it neat – if you have pictures / posters music Related showing a musical activity, bring it in! We'll hang it up!
3. Take PRIDE in your instrument. Someone is spending / has spent a large amount of money on it for you. If it is a school-owned instrument, take care of it so it may be eventually passed along to younger students.
4. PRACTICE to be successful! High levels of practice lead to HIGH LEVELS of Performance.
5. LET'S HAVE FUN!!! Leave your troubles at my door when you enter and let music Begin!

### **Behavior Guidelines:**

The following guidelines will be used during class to prevent / correct any behaviors deemed inappropriate by the director. Students that follow the behavioral expectations and school handbook will be able to make the most of their experience in band.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Incident: Warning; correct behavior will be enforced
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: 10 Minute “Time Out”, will sit apart from class in silence
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Detention on following day  
Call Parent / Guardian
- 4<sup>th</sup>: Detention  
Conference with Parent / Guardian and Principal
- 5<sup>th</sup>: Will meet with Principal for possible removal from class temporarily or permanently. Further discipline will follow school handbook policy.

### **Always Have:**

1. Instrument
2. 3-ring Binder with ALL music.
3. Pencil
4. POSITIVE ATTITUDE

Each Student can earn a total of 5 Points each Band Class. This will be based upon behavior, attitude and attention.

- 5: Prepared, Focused, Trying, Respecting
- 4: Asked to Correct Behavior Once
- 3: Forgets Pencil and / or Music
- 2: Forgets Instrument / Sticks
- 1: Distracting Class While Sitting Out
- 0: Removal from class for the day

## TRIMESTER GRADES:

Playing Skills: Evaluations of student's increasing technical abilities to play instrument.

6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Gr:

Four (4) Playing Tests	per Trimester	
Two (2) Vocabulary Tests	per Trimester	
Rhythm Tests (2)	per Trimester	
Theory Workbook		
Written Quiz	per Trimester	
“Pop” checks to see if instrument is being taken home		
Performance Participation	per Concert	100 points

### **Assignments Explained:**

1. Playing Tests (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Gr.) will be learned in class/sectionals and will be played on Smart Music. Students will be given at least two weeks to prepare for the playing test.
2. Rhythm Sheets (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Gr.) will be given to students and learned in class together. Students will then play rhythms individually for a grade. Students will be given at least two weeks to learn rhythms before being graded.
3. Vocabulary terms (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Gr.) will be in a Theory Workbook. All terms will be discussed in class.
4. Finals (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Gr.) will be comprehension and given at the end of each trimester. Finals are given in class.

### **Sectionals:**

Band sectionals meet every other week. Sectionals are rotated so the same class is not missed. Sectionals are worth twenty (20) points. A zero will be recorded in the grade book for each missed sectional that is not excused. The following are excused: absence from school, field trip, test, quiz, or lab. A sectional schedule is handed out in advance and is posted on the band room door and on the band website:

[www.lauragipson.weebly.com](http://www.lauragipson.weebly.com)

### **Participation:**

Daily participation points (5) are given as previously explained. Bonus points will be given to students who assist in filing music, assist younger students in class / during after school rehearsals, help set up / tear down for concerts, etc.

## **Absence from Performances:**

The Director must approve all missed concerts / contest in advance. Parent(s) / Guardians may call or send a note **BEFOREHAND**. In case of emergencies / death in the family, the Director may be contacted at your earliest possible convenience. All performances are worth a total of 100 points each. **Students will be required to stay for the entire concert / contest to receive full credit for the performance.** Performances are our most valuable experiences as musicians. Without performances, our band experience is incomplete. It is also important to display good concert etiquette at all fine arts performances. Students failing to display proper concert etiquette will only receive partial credit for the performance.

### **INSTRUMENT ACCESSORY CHECK LIST:**

#### FLUTE

Cleaning rod  
Hankerchief  
Key oil  
Screwdriver (same size as used for eyeglasses)

#### CLARINET, OBOE, BASSOON, AND SAXOPHONE

Reeds (must have at least 4 extras in instrument case)  
Reed case  
Cleaning swab (silk for oboe / bassoon)  
Cork grease  
Key Oil  
Bore Oil (only for wooden instruments – NOT plastic)  
Hankerchief

#### TRUMPET, FRENCH HORN, BARITONE, AND TUBA

Valve oil  
Slide grease  
Hankerchief  
Snake cleaning rod

#### TROMBONE

Tuning slide grease  
Slide cream/oil  
Slide sprayer (small 1 oz. plastic spray bottle)  
Hankerchief  
Snake cleaning rod

#### PERCUSSION

Bell Mallets  
Concert Snare Sticks (5B) Wood tip  
Mallet Bag for sticks (not necessary but great gift idea)  
Practice pad / silly putty / or thick phone book

