



BAND HANDBOOK 2023-2024

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Introduction

The goal of the St. Ignatius Band is to explore music and deepen our faith, through concert band rehearsal and performance. Music and Fine Arts education teaches discipline, responsibility, and personal growth that are crucial to the formation of well-rounded individuals. Through music we learn creativity and beauty. As in Christianity, band teaches us to strive to do our best as an individual in order to benefit the larger group.

With students, parents, and teachers working together toward the common goal of excellence, we are certain to have a rewarding year. The information in this packet will help you to understand the requirements and expectations that will lead us to be successful.

Objectives of the Band Program

- To teach music by rehearsal and performance
- To develop performance skills of the various wind and percussion instruments
- To provide for the musical needs of the school and the community
- To acquaint the students with Music Theory / History and how history and musical composition relate to students' current life and musical experiences
- To provide all students with the opportunity for worthy use of their time, a means for self expression, and a healthy social experience
- To develop the ability to function as a responsible member of a group, enhance interaction, and develop ownership of the band
- To foster leadership skills within each student

*Mission: We will meet the unmet demands of our students and families for a Catholic classical education to form a community of disciples of Christ.
Vision: As a Catholic community, we will increase the number of virtuous leaders, thinkers, and intentional disciples of Christ working to rebuild our culture.*

Expectations and Responsibilities

- Students are expected to be prepared at all lessons and arrive at the scheduled time.
- Students are expected to be prepared for class and in their seats with all needed materials **within 2 minutes of the start of class.**
 - Assemble your instrument and have the appropriate music out.
 - Warm up your instrument at a soft or medium volume only.
 - Have a pencil ready.
- Students will not touch or play any instrument that does not belong to them.
- Students are expected to be respectful of all materials used. instruments, music, folders, stands, etc.
- Students are responsible for the safety, care, and maintenance of their instruments and other equipment. On occasion an instrument will need regular maintenance or repair due to accidental damage. Please inform Mr. Krautkramer if this situation occurs.
- Students must be respectful of all others in the classroom.
- **Participation in all performances is required.**

Class Discipline

Any student engaging in inappropriate behavior will receive a verbal warning, and a demerit or detention depending on the particular situation. Recurring inappropriate behavior will result in a demerit and notification of the student's parents. A full explanation of the code of conduct and discipline can be found in the school's Family Handbook.

Classes and Lessons

Full group band class will take place twice each week. Students will have either an individual or small group lesson with Mr. Krautkramer for 20 minutes once a week. Students will be excused from their other classes, but are expected to keep track of any missed assignments or instruction, etc. Their lesson time will be scheduled by Mr. Krautkramer and will be their allotted time for the entire quarter. If a student needs to miss a lesson for a test or project, I can be flexible to reschedule. However, if a student misses a lesson without prior notice, it is their responsibility to reschedule that lesson. Missed lessons must be made up or they will impact the student's grade.

Grading

- **Concerts & Performances = 50%**

Students must participate in their band group's concert performances. Music is a performance-based art. Therefore, concerts are the primary tool for assessing a student's progress through the band curriculum. Please notify Mr. Krautkramer of any absences as far in advance as possible. For planned absences (i.e, travel out of town), please inform Mr. Krautkramer at least 2 weeks in advance. For planned and excused (i.e., illness, funeral, etc.) absence, an alternate assignment will be given to the student to be completed within one week of the missed performance. It is unacceptable to give notice of a planned absence less than 2 weeks in advance. It is not an excused absence to miss a performance because of employment; ample notice will be given to change the students work schedule. Each student brings their own unique set of abilities and gifts to the ensemble, and their participation is necessary for the success of the group.

- **Lessons = 20%**

Students are expected to come to their weekly lesson on time, with all materials (instrument, music, pencil, practice card), and having the assignment from the last lesson prepared. Missed Lessons will result in 0 points given until the lesson is made up. Rescheduled lessons must be completed by the end of the quarter.

- **Class Rehearsals = 20%**

Students will be evaluated on preparedness, participation and behavior. Students need to be prepared for rehearsal, participate actively in class, and act with virtuous and productive behavior. To be successful in rehearsal, individual talking and "extra" noise will be kept to a minimum.

- **Home Practice = 10%**

Regular, consistent practice at home is essential for success in band. The goal for students will be 120 to 180 minutes per week (ideally 20 to 30 minutes each day). This will be recorded on a practice card, signed weekly by a parent or guardian, and returned at the following week's lesson.

Students who practice regularly will have more fun in band!

Concert Dates and Locations

- **Advent Lessons & Carols Prayer Service**
Grades 6 to 12
6:00 pm Monday, December 18, 2023
Holy Cross Church
(Students arrive at 5:30 pm in concert dress)
- **Pep Band** – Grades 9 to 12
–Two Fall Dates TBD
–Two Spring Dates TBD
- **Catholic Schools Week Masses**
small groups of Grades 7 to 12
Sat./Sun. January 27/28, 2023
Times & Locations TBD
- **Spring Band Concert**
Grades 5 to 12
Date & Location TBD
(Students arrive at 5:30 pm in concert dress)

Concert Dress

- **Grades 5 to 8** *Same as School Uniform*
 - Girls - purple polo shirt
gray uniform skirt (or pants)
black tights or knee socks
black dress shoes
 - Boys - purple polo shirt
gray uniform pants
black socks
black dress shoes
- **Grades 9 to 12** *Same as School Uniform*
 - Girls - White dress shirt
blazer
gray uniform skirt
navy tights or knee socks
black dress shoes
 - Boys - white dress shirt
uniform tie
blazer
gray uniform pants
black socks
black dress shoes

Concert Behavior

Band is an ensemble-based class with performance as an objective. Students will do their best to engage the audience by striving for excellence while playing and in appearance. To that end, all students will be required to remain with their ensemble for the duration of the concert. Ensembles at rest will exemplify good audience behavior by attentive, quiet listening. Rude or disruptive behavior will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined above.

Instruments

In order for Students to participate in band, each student needs a functioning instrument with a reliable case, and all the pertinent accessories required to maintain their instrument.

Each student will need to have their own instrument.

– **Renting** an instrument from a local music store is an excellent option to get started. These instruments are usually new or well-maintained instruments at an affordable monthly rate.

– **Purchasing** an instrument is an appropriate option for students who have shown a commitment to band. Instruments are available new from local music stores or available used from several sources. Be careful when purchasing instruments from the internet, as quality and condition are crucial. Ask Mr. Krautkramer for advice before making a purchase.

– **Borrowing** a used instrument from a relative or friend is sometimes an option. Please consult Mr. Krautkramer about condition and playability of any used instrument.

NOTE: The school owns a limited number of instruments that can be rented from the school each year for a modest fee. Please arrange this with Mr. Krautkramer if you are in need.

Supplies and Materials

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students need to provide: -Pencil -Music Stand for at-home practice 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flute -Tuning rod (usually comes with the flute) -Swab 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trumpet -Valve oil -Tuning slide grease -Trumpet cleaning snake -Brass mouthpiece brush
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarinet -3 useable reeds (2.5 or medium strength) -Swab -Cork grease -Reed holder or reed case -Woodwind mouthpiece brush 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trombone -Slide oil or slide cream -Trombone water bottle -Tuning slide grease -Trombone cleaning snake -Brass mouthpiece brush
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alto or Tenor Saxophone -3 useable reeds (2.5 or medium strength) -Swab -Cork grease -Reed holder or reed case -Woodwind mouthpiece brush 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baritone or Tuba -Valve oil -Tuning slide grease -Baritone/Tuba cleaning snake -Brass mouthpiece brush
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French Horn -Rotor oil -Tuning slide grease -Horn cleaning snake -Brass mouthpiece brush 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percussion -Pair of 5A drum sticks -Pair of bell mallets (such as Balter BB11 or Vic Firth M14) -Optional (but suggested): Drum stick bag

St. Ignatius / Chesterton Academy Band Handbook Agreement

Both the student and parent/guardian have read the St. Ignatius / Chesterton Academy Band Handbook for the 2023-2024 school year and fully understand the expectations and responsibilities set forth for members of the ensembles. I understand that the violation of these rules will result in the appropriate disciplinary action as outlined in this handbook and in compliance with St. Ignatius Catholic School's Code of Conduct.

Please sign and return this form to Mr. Krautkramer by Friday, September 8, 2023.

Student Signature _____

Student Instrument _____ Student Grade _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Relationship to Student _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number _____

Parent/Guardian Email _____