

Northland Pines Middle School
Intermediate Band Handbook
2017-2018

Letter from the Band Director

Welcome to Northland Pines Band Program. I am VERY excited that you have decided to take advantage of one of the most wonderful experiences in your lifetime—**BAND!** Involvement in this program will have many benefits such as brain development, building a sense of community, and seeing reward for hard work, but no benefit is as great as the simple joy that comes from making and sharing music with others! This year especially promises to be fun with continuing our tradition of excellence in performance. This handbook will supply you with general information about Band and is for you to **KEEP**. Please only tear out the pages in back and hold onto the rest of the handbook for future reference.

Letter from the Principle

As the principal of Northland Pines Middle School I am a big believer of students getting involved in activities that will help to mold them into people who will have a positive impact on our school and our society. Involvement in band is one of the activities that we are thrilled to offer our students. As the principal I fully support all of our extracurricular activities including our band program. Many of our students have really taken hold and shown that music is their passion. For some of our students their passion for music has really been a safe haven for them and that positive light that they crave. When students find their passion in music it often helps them in other classes as well because the students feel more like they are part of something special.

Music has helped many students feel this sense of belonging, whether it has been with the band or choir. Our music students are taught dedication and preparedness as they get ready for multiple performances they have throughout the school year. Our different concerts are always done at the highest caliber and never cease to impress not only me but community members and the parents/guardians of our student performers. Our students that are involved in band definitely have a prominent place in our school and are integral in elevating school spirit as well as positively representing our school district through appearances at local parades, athletic events, school assemblies and school and community concerts and assemblies.

I always look forward to watching our students grow and the group of musicians come together as the school year progresses. Watching these students excel in their musical ventures as well as academically is also very enjoyable.

Sincerely,

Dan Marien
NPMS Principal

Course Descriptions:

Intermediate Band: The objective of this class is to make **great music** every day. Students will accomplish this daunting task through CMP, or Comprehensive Musicianship through Performance. Through CMP, we get the story behind the music, including history, technical demands of the instrument, compositional intent, culture, and message, instead of just learning notes on a page. By learning in depth about the music we perform, we have more meaningful concerts.

Jazz Band: The emphasis on this course will be learning jazz style and improvisation. Improvisation is the art of making up the music as you go! Please support your students who are taking this course as it can be very uncomfortable. However, with a supportive atmosphere in class and at home, students can really accomplish some spectacular things through this art-form.

Solo and Ensemble

Each student is required to participate in Solo and Ensemble which will be here at NPMS&HS on **Saturday February 24th**. Solo and Ensemble is an opportunity for young musicians to play alone or in a small group for a clinician who will give them immediate feedback. There are various levels of difficulty and a possibility for students to receive awards based on their performance. Make sure to not schedule any trips and to notify sports coaches ahead of time that students will be in attendance.

Performance Class

Band is a performance class, which means that a large portion of a student's grade consists of a successful performance experience. Concerts are held in the evenings. Please look over the **performance calendar** in this handbook carefully so that you are aware of all concert dates!

Performance	Date/time	Location	Group
Veteran's Day	11/9 -school day	Field House	All MS Bands
Jazz Concert*	11/13 - 7PM	NPHS Auditorium	Jazz Band only
Winter Concert	12/14 - 7PM	NPHS Auditorium	All MS Bands
Holiday Tour	12/22 - school day	Community	All MS Bands
Solo and Ensemble	2/24 7:30AM-5PM	NPHS/MS	All MS Bands
UWEC Jazz Fest* (tentative)	3/21 - All day	University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire	Jazz Band only
Spring Concert	5/17 7PM	NPHS Auditorium	All MS Bands
Cabaret*	5/23 - 6PM	NPHS Commons	Jazz Band only

Call time is generally 30 minutes before performances (6:30 pm for a 7:00 concert).

Concert Attire

All 6th, 7th, & 8th grade band students are required to have the following attire for concerts:

WHITE button dress shirt or polo shirt

BLACK (solid) bottoms – pants or skirt (skirts must be below the knee)

BLACK (solid) shoes and socks (cheap shoes available at Dinkles.com)

YOU MUST PROVIDE THIS BY CONCERT TIME!

Contact Mr. Mann if need help

Band Grading Policy

NPMS uses a traditional gradebook with a strong foundation in ELTs (Essential Learning Targets) and informs our curriculum with standards and benchmarks. We believe this helps students understand their progress and growth in performance while providing timely updates on Infinite Campus. A combination of performance grades, lessons, smart-music recordings, and ePortfolio entries will make up the summative and formative graded activities, which will take place during class time, study hall, and at out-of-school performances. Each assessment has a rubric that includes the specific music standards. Participation is not assessed in a student's grade, however, students will receive a separate assessment of character/behavior which will be communicated on the report card, but not included in the student's GPA. In this way, we hope that we can better communicate to students and parents how a student is progressing in music.

Rather than having each standard reported separately, the points toward the standards will simply be added together to produce a final score in the gradebook. To earn a high grade in music classes, students need to demonstrate their musical learning by doing all of their work and attending all performances. Each standard will be weighted differently in the gradebook, placing an emphasis on live performance.

7-12 Grading Structure Band/Choir 2017-2018

1. **Performs music live** to communicate artistry between ensemble and audience (40% of final grade)
 - The following skills affect musicians' performance quality and may be assessed:
 - a. Attendance and timeliness
 - b. Preparedness- music, materials, concert attire
 - c. Audience Etiquette- respect for other performing groups and selves
 - d. Live demonstrations of Standards #2-6

2. Demonstrate understanding of musical terminology through correct **pitches** and **rhythms**. (10% of final grade)
3. Use proper **posture** and **breath support** to play/sing with ensemble-level **tone** and **intonation** (10% of final grade)
4. Communicate music using open **vowels**, correct **articulations**, and clear **diction** (10% of final grade)
5. Listen and respond with ensemble-level **dynamics, balance, and blend** (10% of final grade)
6. **Compose** and **improvise** using a playable range and clear, meaningful phrasing (10% of final grade)
7. **Listen, describe, and evaluate** the effectiveness of performances and compositions (10% of final grade)

What gets graded?

The above standards will be assessed formatively and summatively. Formative assessments are only worth 5% of the grade and will include group assessments in rehearsal, some lesson material, and some smart-music assignments. Summative assessments are worth the remaining 95% of the grade and will be assessed during lessons, portfolio assignments, smart-music assignments, and most importantly live concert performances.

Retake Policy and Late Submissions

The goal of standards-influenced traditional grading is to show what a student knows, not just to show which homework a student completed “on time”. If a student is unhappy with a grade on an assignment (not concert performance) they can, at director’s discretion, redo the entry until the end of the quarter. A student who misses a required performance for a valid reason can do an alternate concert performance assignment.

Questions/Concerns?

Communicate with the director early in order to ensure success. Do not hesitate to ask for help, clarification, or extensions based on need. We cannot help you unless you ask!

Duties of the Band Member

- Be on time to all rehearsals and performances. **Early is on time-On time is late.**
- Upon entering the rehearsal setting, get your instrument, and go directly to your seat.
- When the director or staff member steps on the podium or asks for attention, all talking should cease.
- Come to the rehearsal with a good attitude.

- There should be no excess playing(e.g., horsing around on the instrument), only good, solid material.
- Make a real effort to improve on a daily basis, and establish a good practice routine.
- At the end of the rehearsal, put all materials in their proper place.
- Maintain strong academic standing in all course work.
- Become responsible for and assume responsibility for your own actions. Admit when you are wrong.
- Have proper respect for yourself and those in authority.
- Read and play music with insight-have musical expectations.

The importance of Attitude

The greatest single factor that will determine the success of any individual or organization is **attitude**. The kind of person you are is an individual choice, and how you feel about something is one of the few actual independent choices you have in life. It takes intense dedication to reach goals. Students should learn to discipline themselves to practice fundamentals. The right attitude must be present along with sincerity, concentration, and dedication as the basic foundations. Such an attitude makes an artistic performance inevitable and is the difference between a winning organization and a mediocre group. The band can do much for you. Make the most of it in every rehearsal and performance.

The Importance of Discipline

Because of the nature of the organization, band discipline must be strict! Band students and parents must believe in the ideals, principles, and philosophy of the organization. Each member must always be aware of good behavior and think for him-or-herself. Any misconduct casts a bad light on the school, community, and band program. Any member who discredits the organization by his or her conduct or actions in band, in another class, or on a trip shall be subject to a loss of privilege with the program and possibly dismissal. This may include the chance to go on a trip.

Parent's Responsibility to the Band

It is the responsibility of every parent and guardian to see that the policies outlined in the handbook are followed and that the form in the back is signed and returned. This states that you understand the policies set within and that any questions are to be directed to the band director by making an appointment. Each parent is responsible for the attendance of his or her child at all band functions. It is the

responsibility of each parent to see that the child brings music into the home and not just into the school and community by being encouraged to perform for the family, or at least given time to practice when considerate to the functions of the family.

How Parents Can Help

- Show interest in the musical study of your child
- Arrange a time for your child to practice that works with your household schedule
- Listen to performance of practice material when asked to do so.
- Help the student keep track of progress!
- Keep the instrument in good repair and help provide necessary materials.
- Teach your child to be prepared for rehearsals and lessons!
- Provide instruction yourself if you musically inclined!
- Make faithful attendance at all band activities important.
- Help your child keep track of their schedule such as putting important dates into google Calendar and sharing that calendar with parents!
- Notify the teacher if the student is to be absent.
- Double-check to make sure students have their instruments.
- Visit rehearsals if wanted
- Attend booster meetings, concerts, games, and contests.
- Turn in fund-raising money on time.
- Volunteer to help when needed

Student's Responsibility to the Band

As members of this organization, you have a great deal of responsibility. These expectations coordinate with the privileges, rewards, and duties of the band program.

To Ourselves - You have the primary responsibility of developing your own abilities.

What you put into it is what you will get out of it. The director is always available for your guidance and encouragement-Just ask!

To the School - The school district provides us with the resources for rehearsals, performances, and equipment. The music boosters also prived a support network, both financially and philosophically. We have the responsibility to provide the best possible services to our community.

To Music - Music has always been a part of our culture. We must take what we have and use it for the betterment of that culture. No one expects you to be virtuoso musicians, only to do the very best you can. The great composer Gustav Mahler once said that only 10 percent of a piece of music is on the page. If that is the case, we as musicians have the duty of creating and producing the other 90 percent. The joy of music is not in everything that is apparent. It must be discovered and created.

To Each other - We must always do what is best of the welfare of the group. There can be no selfish acts solely for the benefit of the individual. Respect each other. If there are conflicts, find a way to resolve them. Never insult another band member's integrity. The word "band" implies that we are banded together without divisions.

Classroom Procedures

- You must be in the storage room or in your seat when the bell rings; warmup will be given two minutes after the bell. During the two minutes beforehand you should move to your seat; obtain music, a music stand, and a pencil.
- When a staff member is talking, you should not be talking. If another student talks to you at an inappropriate time, don't respond. He or she will get the message! Although this is an expectation, an inability to comprehend this concept will result in a consequence commensurate with the frequency of talking.
- The purpose of rehearsal is for you to learn the parts of others and how they relate to yours, not just to learn your own music.
- If you must leave your seat for any reason, please ask. Restroom breaks should be taken between classes.

- **Beginning class** - When you enter the door.
- **Attention** - Band director will clap clave pattern one time (5 claps)
- **Using Phone** - ask for permission
- **Asking a questions** - raise your hand
- **Responding to questions** - raise your hand
- **Lockers** - keep locked and neat
- **Passing in papers or music** - pass to the right
- **Distributing music** - send up a representative from each section
- **Turning in assignments** - through smart music or schoology or in class
- **Turning in fund-raising money** - Write all appropriate info on form including name!!!
- **Listening to PA announcements** - Everyone should be quiet
- **Drills** - go to the assigned area and remain as a class to follow instructions
- **Announcements** Check the board and e-mail, assignments may also be given in class verbally
- **Getting help** - Just ask and be patient. Following up with an e-mail is ideal

- **Leaving your seat** - raise your hand and ask for permission
- **Entering the Classroom** - go directly to instrument/music/seat/warm-up
- **Class dismissal** - Wait for the teacher to dismiss, not the bell
- **Seeing someone for the first time** - say “good morning” or “hello”
- **Practicing** - Do it!
- **Set up and Take down** - make sure to volunteer to help if able, and always stay till everything is put back in band room. Do not leave stuff in front of door!

Use of the Band Facility

Band Room - The use of the band facilities before, after, and during school is a privilege. Students who abuse the facility will be disciplined accordingly. Any abuse or damage will be considered vandalism. **No outside students are permitted in the band room**, except for business with the director. There will be no horseplay in or around the band room. All percussion equipment is off limits to anyone not specifically designated to use them. There will be no storing of personal items--the band room is not a locker!

Auditorium - There is no food or drink allowed in the auditorium. Students should be careful to sit properly in audience seats and not put their feet on or against any part of the chair.

Practice Rooms - Should be used for individual and small group practice only, not for socializing. Keep the room neat and free from personal belongings.

We are lucky to have such nice facilities. With our continued care they will stay nice long into the future!

Individual Practice

As with any activity, you get out of it what you put into it. Band will be more fun the more you and your fellow students practice! There are many values in the study of music as a discipline that transfer to other areas of life. Although this will not immediately happen, persistent practice will lead to enthusiastic driven practice. Remember: “Perfect practice makes perfect!” Here is a suggested plan of study:

- Pick a set time of day (3rd hour perhaps?)
- Use a tuner for a portion of your practice. (cell phone only permitted before or after school)


- Have a non-boomy place of practice
- Increase dynamic range (work on *pianissimo*)
- Use our daily warm-up and think “tone”
- Increase endurance (15 minutes of full-tone playing)
- Play some form of scales at every practice session
- Increase range (highest note with good tone)
- Take a break every 20 minutes
- Use a metronome part of the time
- Work on technique (articulations, accents)
- Practice sight-reading
- Incorporate music from class
- Record your practice information on a google doc journal!

Individual Listening

Just as a the blind child cannot paint a picture of the sunset, an instrumentalist cannot duplicate a characteristic sound on his or her instrument without an appropriate model to emulate. Below are suggestions of artists for each instrument. It is encouraged for students and parents to seek out recordings:

<i>Flute</i>	Jean-Pierre Rampal, Jim Walker, Paula Robison
<i>Clarinet</i>	Harold Wright, Larry Combs
<i>Oboe</i>	Joseph Robinson, John Mack
<i>Bassoon</i>	Bubonic Bassoon Quartet, Christopher Millard
<i>Saxophone</i>	Jean Rousseau, Joseph Lulloff, Steven Mauk
<i>Trumpet</i>	Adolph Herseth, Phil Smith
<i>Horn</i>	Dale Clevenger, Dennis Brain
<i>Trombone</i>	Joseph Alessi, Christian Linberg
<i>Euphonium</i>	Brian Bowman, Roger Behrend
<i>Tuba</i>	Arnold Jacobs, Sam Pilafian, Roger Bobo

Classroom Rules as associated with PBIS



Band Room

Be Respectful

- A. Only playing and talking when you should!
- B. Supporting each other as individuals-no put downs!
- C. Treat instruments and equipment with care!

Be Responsible

- A. Class starts when you enter the door.
- B. Bring your pencil and Class Materials!
- C. Only drink water in Band Room

Be Safe

- A. LISTEN CAREFULLY to Mr. Mann's instructions during drills or times of crisis.
- B. Move deliberately with awareness of surroundings
- C. Avoid inappropriate behaviour!

Possible consequences for inappropriate behaviors and rule infractions:

1st infraction: Verbal Warning

2nd infraction: Mr. Mann writes name on board (written warning)

3rd infraction: Student receives detention

4th infraction: Student is removed from classroom

Mr. Mann reserves the right to change consequence policy if needed especially, but not limited to, severe disturbances of class

2017-2018 NPSD Music Department Events Calendar

Thursday 9/14	6:00 pm	Music Booster Open House	NPHS Band Room
Friday 9/22	All Day	Homecoming (Parade, Pep Rally, Football game)	
Thursday 10/12	6:00 pm	Music Boosters	NPHS Band Room
Monday 10/9	7:00pm	Pep Band Concert	NPHS Auditorium
Friday 11/9	Morning	Veteran's Day	NPHS Fieldhouse
Saturday 11/11	All Day	GNC All-Conference	Northland Pines HS
Thursday 11/9	6:00 pm	Music Boosters	NPHS Band Room
*Monday 11/13	7:00 pm	MS/HS Jazz Concert	NPHS Auditorium
Thursday 12/7	6:00 pm	Music Boosters	NPHS Band Room
Monday 12/11	7:00pm	7-12 Choir Winter Concert	NPHS Auditorium
Thursday 12/14	7:00 pm	7-12 Band Winter Concert	NPHS Auditorium
Thursday 12/15	7:00 pm	ERES Winter Concert	NPHS Auditorium
Thursday 12/21	School Day	HS Band/HS Choir	Community Tour
Friday 12/22	School Day	MS Band/MS choir	Community Tour
Thursday 1/1	6:00 pm	Music Boosters	NPHS Band Room
Fri-Sun 2/9-11	7:00, 2:00 Sun	NPHS Musical	NPHS Auditorium
Thursday 2/16	6:00 pm	Music Boosters	NPHS Band Room
Saturday 2/24	ALL DAY	GNC Solo Ensemble	NPHS
Sat-Fri 3/24-3/30		NPHS Disney Trip	Orlando, FL
Thursday 3/8	6:00 pm	Music Boosters	NPHS Band Room
Thursday 4/12	6:00 pm	Music Boosters	NPHS Band Room
Saturday 4/21	ALL DAY	UW Eau-Claire Jazz Fest	UWEC
Monday 4/30	7:00pm	NPHS Band Awards Concert	NPHS Auditorium
Thursday 5/3	6:00 pm	Music Boosters	NPMS Band Room
Saturday 5/5	8:00 am-4:00 p	WSMA State Solo/Ens.	UW-Stevens Point
Thursday 5/10	7:00 pm	NPMS Choir Concert	NPHS Auditorium
Monday 5/14	7:00 pm	NPHS Choir Awards Concert	NPHS Auditorium
Thursday 5/17	7:00 pm	NPMS Band Concert	NPHS Auditorium
Wednesday 5/23	6:00 pm	Cabaret Concert	NPHS Commons
Monday 5/28	11:00 am	Memorial Day Perf.	Vilas Courthouse
Sunday 6/3	1:00 pm	Graduation Performance	NPHS Fieldhouse
Thurs-Fri 6/28-6/29	6-8PM	4th of July Practice	NPHS Band Room
Wednesday 7/4	11:00am	4th of July Parade	Parade

Band Instructor Contact info

Mr. Forrest Mann

715.479.4473 ext. 1404

fmann@npsd.k12.wi.us

-Feel free to come in and talk to me as well. I love meeting parents and telling them how great their children are! I am usually at the HS band room after school working with students.

Music Retailers

1) Northland Music Center

16 S. Brown Street
715.420.0555

Rhineland, WI 54501
northlandmusiccenter.com

2) Instrumental Music Company

2986 Voyager Drive
920.544.5843

Green Bay, WI 54311
866.813.2263 www.musicimc.com

These are the suggested music retailers. Both have websites that you can visit for more information. A representative from Northland Music Center visits the music department once a week and Instrumental Music Company once a month. If you would like to try out new instruments or order equipment, just call and they will drop off your item(s) in the band room.

That means no traveling when you deal with either business!!! Just call ahead of time, tell them your child's name and school, and they'll pickup/drop-off for you!! A representative arrives here personally!

Band Supplies

Unlike most other classes Band has a large requirement for materials needed. Each student needs an instrument to play on, their own copy of our book, a care kit (contains tools to maintain instrument), and if you are a woodwind player, reeds to make the instrument produce it's sound. The following is an order form for a plan that includes everything a student should need for band for most of the year.

The plan does not necessarily include all cleaning supplies, so you might consider contacting Northland Music Center or Instrumental Music Company for a care kit.

Each student will need a new book this year as we are using a different book than last year.

MS Band Supplies Order Form

(Please Make checks out to Northland Pines MS - supplies will not be ordered without money)

Flute Year Plan – \$10..... _____
-only needs book

Clarinet Year Plan - \$25..... _____
-includes book and 5 reeds and reed guard

Alto Sax Year Plan - \$30..... _____
-includes book and five reeds and reed guard

Trumpet/Euphonium/Tuba Year Plan – \$15..... _____
-includes book and valve oil

Trombone Year Plan - \$15..... _____
-includes book slide cream and oil or spray bottle

5 Clarinet Reeds and Reed Guard \$15 _____
-do not purchase if you got a year plan (

5 Alto Sax Reeds and Reed Guard \$20 _____
-do not purchase if you got a year plan

Book only - \$10..... _____

Total..... _____

Name: _____

*****Tear this page off from the booklet and keep the rest!*****

Contract of Mutual Consent

I, the undersigned student, accept membership in the Northland Pines Band and understand I am responsible for all policies set forth in the band handbook. I fully agree to carry out my responsibilities to the very best of my abilities.

 Print Student Name Here (legible)

 Student Signature

 date

I, the undersigned parent or guardian, have read and understand the policies as set forth in the band handbook. I also grant full permission for my child to be an active member of the Northland Pines Band. In addition, my child has full permission to attend all band functions.

 Parent/Guardian Signature

 date

Parent Contact Information:

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Parent/Guardian Volunteering- I would be interested in being contacted for helping with (please circle):

Booster board	receptions	ushering
Ticket sales	Food prep	Food shopping
fund-raising	costume/uniforms	chaperone
grant-writing	Moving equipment	loading/unloading equipment
Stage tear-down	Stage Set-up	Other skill that might help _____

Recurring Field Trip Permission Form

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Because of your child's involvement with band, he or she will be taking part in a series of field trips during the course of the year. An agenda of scheduled trips is contained in the band handbook.

In as much as these events are an extension of school, school policies and regulations will be observed at all times by the undersigned. If the student does violate the above policies, she/he will be disciplined and/or sent home at the expense of the parent/guardian. The parent/guardian will be notified of the incident as soon as possible.

In order to better serve the needs of the students, chaperones should be informed of any physical/medical restriction, allergies, and etc. that could affect the student at the times of the event. Such information will remain confidential with the chaperones at the request of the parents. The supervisors will exercise all reasonable caution to protect your son/daughter from injury.

Permission is hereby granted for _____ (student's name) to participate in the band activities outlined in this handbook and receive transportation to and from these activities.

Known health concerns or problems of your child and precautions to take:

Name and number of emergency contact while child is on field trip:

Name _____ Phone _____

Relationship to child _____

I give permission for my child to attend the event and to be given medical treatment in the event of an illness/injury.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____