

Schmucker Middle School

Instrumental Music Department Handbook

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Dear Parents,

Congratulations! Your child has decided to be a member of the Schmucker Middle School Instrumental Music Program. Schmucker Bands and Orchestras have a tradition of excellence and we are proud of the students' achievements. There are many aspects of the program that you may be curious about as an instrumental music parent. We hope to answer your questions with the following information.

Instrumental Music Objectives

The students should be able to:

1. Follow classroom rehearsal procedures and respect the property of others.
2. Meet individual responsibilities for care and preventive maintenance of a musical instrument.
3. Follow concert procedures and meet performance obligations on the school calendar.
4. Demonstrate mastery of musical skills and concepts outlined in the Indiana State Standards.
5. Read and perform appropriate grade level musical literature.
6. Sight-read appropriate grade level music.

Classroom Expectations

The students will:

1. Arrive to class on time, listen, and be respectful of others.
2. Be prepared for class with a working instrument, music, pencil and 3 ring binder.
 - 6th Grade method book: Essential Elements Interactive for Band Book 1
 - 7th Grade method book: Measures of Success Book 1
 - 8th Grade method book: Measures of Success Book 2
3. Never handle an instrument that does not belong to you.
4. Bring a note to the director from a parent if he/she can not play because of illness, injury, or dental work. Students will follow along with their music, mock play and say notes names.
5. Raise hand to be recognized to ask a question and not talk when others are talking
6. **Show** respect to your classmates
Make a difference by being ready to learn

Set high expectations for themselves

Grading Policy

Students in instrumental music will learn many aspects of music as outlined in the:

Indiana State Standards.

Standard 1 – Performing Music, singing alone and with others

Standard 2 – Performing Music, playing an instrument alone and with others

Standard 3 – Creating Music, improvise melodies

Standard 4 – Composing and arranging music

Standard 5 – Responding to music, reading, notating, and interpreting music

Standard 6 – Listening to and analyzing music

Standard 7 - Evaluating music and performances

Standard 8 – Understanding music and the relationships between music and the other arts.

Standard 9 – Understanding music in relationship to history and culture

Formative and Summative Assessment

Formative and Summative assessment reflect academic performance only. Students will receive multiple opportunities to demonstrate achievement through a variety of assessments to include:

Written Quizzes and Tests	Concerts	Playing Assessments	Rehearsal Target Goals
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Home Playing Recommendations

There are no shortcuts in the development of young musicians. Dedication and commitment are the key building blocks of a successful student. Concepts that are discussed and taught in the classroom must be played and reviewed by the individual at home in order for them to be mastered. It is important for students to establish a home routine.

1. Average 15 minutes a day, minimum of 100 minutes total per week is recommended
2. Students should have a practice goal in mind before they begin to play.
3. Find a time that best fits the family schedule to play at home.

Classroom Environment

We will follow our SMS school-wide behavior expectations

Show Respect, **M**ake a difference, **S**et the Bar High

Showing Respect

Please make responsible choices, Active Listening

Do your personal best, Truth, Trust

Making a Difference

Be prepared for class, Help others, Help the teacher

Set the Bar High

Set personal goals, Make a plan and work for your goal

Lockers

SMS does not have lockers for all instruments. Some instruments will be placed in a storage room on shelves. The room will be locked unless we are present. Everyone else will receive a locker. Combination locks are permitted as long as we have the combination as well. **EVERY instrument must have a name tag with first and last name.** Please have the serial number for your child's instrument in a secure place.

Concert Attire

When giving a performance, it is not only important to sound professional, but also to look professional. In order to make a positive impression on our audience or judge, we must dress appropriately. Concert attire must also follow SMS dress code.

Boys: Black dress pants, white shirt with a collar, black socks and black dress shoes.

Girls: Black pants, capri's or gauchos, white shirt and black dress shoes. In order to keep a uniform look, no skirts or dresses are allowed.

Band Performances

It is imperative that we have all students present for all required performances and additional practices! We can not work as a successful and cohesive unit if we do not have all members in attendance. Absence from these events will not only affect your child, but the entire group. Unexcused absence will result in a grade loss.

An excused absence is an absence due to illness and documented family emergency. Special circumstances will be considered provided **written notification is made to the student's director three weeks prior to the performance date**. Phone messages and e-mail are not considered written notifications. Parent note must have the parent's signature. It will be the **student's responsibility to set a time** up with the director before school to play their music for the missed points. Students make up their concert grade from an excused absence through playing their concert music for the director as a playing assessment grade.

Dates in BOLD indicate a required performance!
2022-2023 Band Performance Schedule

Date	Event	Grade/Time	Location
Nov. 4th	SMS solo/ensemble entry deadline turned in to Ms.Hills or Mr. Carnall		
Nov. 12th & 13th	IBA All-Region Honor Band	7th/8th All day	Penn H.S.
Nov. 9th	Fall Concert	6th 6:30 pm 7th 7:30 pm	SMS Cafe
Nov. 16th	Kaleidoscope	8th 7:00 pm	Penn CPA
Feb. 4th	ISSMA solo/ensemble	6th/7th/8th All Day	Northwood HS
Feb. 22nd	Pre Contest Concert	6th 6:15 7th 7:15 8th 8:15	SMS Cafe
March 6th and 7th	Instrument selection for incoming 6th graders		SMS Cafe
Mar 17th & 18th	ISSMA Contest PLEASE LEAVE SATURDAY OPEN We are not guaranteed a Friday time slot.	TBA	Penn H.S.

May 16th

Pops Concert

6th - 6:30

7th - 7:30

8th - 8:30

SMS Cafe

SIGNATURE PAGE

I have read and fully understand my responsibilities for classroom procedures and concerts which includes attendance and attire.

Student Name: (First and last)

Class Period:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date:

Parent e-mail:

(PLEASE print clearly)

Please return this information page to Mr./Mrs. Carnall or Ms. Hills

by Wednesday, August 24, 2022