

# 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.

## **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. Combinations lock 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.

## **Classroom Rehearsal Procedures**

### **The students will:**

1. Arrive to class on time, listen, and be respectful of others.
2. Be prepared for class with working instrument, music, pencil and 3 ring binder.
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. An alternate assignment will be given to those students who are not able to play.
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	Goal Sheet (Practice requirements)
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## Practice Expectations

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 practiced by the individual at home in order for them to be mastered. It is important for students to establish a practice routine. Goal Sheets are due every Monday with a parent signature.

1. Average 15 minutes a day, 100 minutes total for the week.
2. Spread out your practice time. Avoid practicing 100 minutes in one day.
3. Student should have a practice goal in mind before they begin to play.

MONDAY – Goal Sheets are due for full credit

TUESDAY – Students can turn goal sheet in with 25% point deduction

WEDNESDAY – Students can turn goal sheet with 50% point deduction

THURSDAY and FRIDAY – goal sheets will not be counted for a grade

## Classroom Environment

We will follow our SMS school-wide behavior expectations

**S**how 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

Set goals for yourself

Help others

Help the teacher

### Set the Bar High

Set personal goals

Make a plan and work for your goal

## 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 pant, 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 notification. 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!**  
**2019-2020 Band Performance Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Grade/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
<b>Nov. 13th</b>	<b>Fall Concert</b>	<b>6th 7:00 pm</b> <b>7th 8:00 pm</b>	<b>SMS Cafe</b>
Nov. 15	SMS Solo/Ensemble Entry Deadline to Mr. or Mrs. Carnall or Miss Hills		
Nov. 16/17	IBA All-Region Honor Band	7th/8th All day	PHM
<b>Nov. 20th</b>	<b>Kaleidoscope</b>	<b>8th 7:30 pm</b>	<b>Penn CPA</b>
Feb. 1st	ISSMA solo/ensemble	6th/7th/8th All Day	Northwood HS
<b>Feb. 26th</b>	<b>Pre Contest Concert</b>	<b>6th 6:30</b> <b>7th 7:30</b> <b>8th 8:30</b>	<b>SMS Cafe</b>
March 3rd and 4th	Instrument selection for incoming 6th graders		SMS Cafe
<b>March 20 or 21</b>	<b>ISSMA Contest</b> <b>PLEASE LEAVE SATURDAY OPEN</b> <b>We are not guaranteed a Friday time slot.</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>Penn H.S.</b>
<b>May 20th</b>	<b>Pops Concert</b>	<b>6th - 6:30</b> <b>7th - 7:30</b> <b>8th - 8:30</b>	<b>SMS Cafe</b>

# Orchestra 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 notification. It will be the **student's responsibility to set a time** up with the director before school to play the 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!**  
**2019-2020 Orchestra Performance Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Grade/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Nov. 15th	SMS solo/ensemble entry deadline turned into Mrs. Carnall!!		
<b>Dec. 11th</b>	<b>Winter Concert</b>	<b>6/7/8 6:30 pm</b>	<b>SMS cafe</b>
Feb. 1st	ISSMA solo/ensemble	All Day	Northwood HS
<b>Feb. 24</b>	<b>After school clinic</b>	<b>6th grade 4:00-6:00 pm</b>	<b>SMS LGI</b>
March 3rd and 4th	Instrument selection for incoming 6th graders		SMS Cafe
<b>March 20 or 21</b>	<b>ISSMA Contest</b> Please plan on a Saturday performance time. We are not guaranteed a Friday time slot.	<b>6/7/8 TBA</b>	<b>Penn H.S.</b>
<b>May 21st</b>	<b>Pops Concert</b>	<b>6/7/8 6:30 pm</b>	<b>SMS Cafe</b>

**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)

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**Class Period:**

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**Parent/Guardian Signature:**

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**Date:**

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**Parent e-mail:**

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*(PLEASE print clearly)*

**Please return this information page to Mr./ Mrs. Carnall or Ms. Hills  
by Wednesday, August 28th**