

Band/ Instrumental Music
Mr. Brett Kroeger
Marching Band/Concert Band/Pep Band – 2013-2014

Philosophy

When I first decided that music education was the career I wanted to pursue, I was not a very good musician. Because of this, I have been shown many ways I can teach and relate concepts to students. I have been very successful with not only teaching students about music, but with teaching them how to think and learn musical concepts on their own. Teaching a student how to think for themselves is a more important skill than telling a student what do.

Another concept I will incorporate in to the band program is teaching students about leadership and life skills. In any music ensemble, being a team player is very important. Skills that are needed to be a team player are being on time, making choices, taking ownership for your actions, and sharing responsibilities.

Attendance Policy

All students are expected to be in their seats or on the rehearsal field at the start of each rehearsal. We have limited time to accomplish our goals during rehearsals, so please be ready on time. Tardiness will result in detention.

Music practices and performances are required. Any request for an exception must be submitted in writing (email is best) and approved by the director **2 WEEKS IN ADVANCE** of the conflicting event. Our schedule is posted early to avoid conflicts. Parents, please make every effort to schedule regular doctor's appointments, senior pictures, and family vacations around the music schedule whenever possible. Students are responsible for arriving at each rehearsal and performance on time and properly prepared (properly dressed, instrument ready, music ready, materials ready).

All absences will be looked into as a case by case issue.

Excusable absences are: (Please bring a note/email/phone call from home)

- Sick from school
- Unavoidable doctor's appointment
- Death in the family
- Important family engagement

Non-excusable absences are:

- Homework
- Attending rock concert
- Birthday
- Work
- Trips that are not given with 2 weeks notice

Scheduled Performance

An unexcused absence will result in a 0 for the missed performance.

Participation Grade

Students will be given 3 points per day when they are fully prepared and participate in class.

Students will lose points for each day they attend a rehearsal and do not actively participate or cause a distracting environment. If your instrument is being repaired, you can borrow a school owned instrument. If that is unavailable, you will be assigned work to make up for the points.

School Owned Instruments/Equipment

If you are using a school owned instrument, you need to keep the instrument in proper working condition. This includes giving the proper maintenance care to the instrument (cleaning, oiling, pads, slides, etc.) Only percussion students are allowed to play the percussion instruments unless Mr. Kroeger gives permission to cover a part. If you damage a school instrument, you will be liable for the damages. User fee is \$25 for the year per instrument.

User fees need to be paid within the first **3 weeks** of the semester. If payment is not received, students do not participate and lose the daily points.

*****New This Year- Marching Band Shoe and Gloves Fee**

To compliment the revamped uniforms and the new style of the Blackhawks Marching Band, **students will need to pay a fee of \$25 dollars for shoes and gloves.** *Most schools also have students pay for the dry cleaning and other fees making their bill anywhere from \$60 to \$100 dollars. I would like to use the money raised at this year's feed to pay for such expenses. If your student grows for next year, I will have some kind of trade-in program so new shoes won't cost as much and there will be a gloves only fee next year. If there are any problems with this, please let me know. I will talk about this at the parent meeting Tuesday night.*

Pop/Food/Gum in the Band Room/Lockers

There is NO food, pop, or gum in the band room. We need to keep our room clean and the sugar is bad for the instruments. Do not store shoes, dishes, or computers in your band locker.

Cell Phones

As the student handbook states, there are no cell phones to be used during rehearsals or performances. If a student chooses to use their cell phone while they are suppose to playing or listening, it will be taken away and given to the building principal.

Lettering

All students enrolled in high school band are eligible to letter in the band program.

Grading System

I will be using the high school grading scale.

Here are the points as follows:

Daily Grade- 3 points

Pep Band- 20 points

Parade/Concert- 50 points (This has to be made up if missed)

8th Grade Weekly Lessons- 15 points

Students will also be graded on attendance, participation, performances, concert critique papers, tests, and technology project. Points will vary on additional assignments.

Extra Credit

There are extra credit possibilities in special cases throughout the year. See Mr. Kroeger if you feel like you need extra credit.

Travel/Transportation

Students are expected to travel with the band to and from all activities. If the student needs to ride home with a parent/ guardian, the parent/ guardian needs to speak face-to-face with Mr. Kroeger before the student can leave/released to another adult. Boys and Girls cannot sit together on bus trips.

Concert Attire

This year concert attire will be discussed before every concert. Concert attire must be school appropriate and follow the student handbook rules.

Bills

Students can purchase items such as reeds, valve oil, neck straps, etc. through the Dave Williams or Schmitt Music.

Please take care of this before school/after school. These bills need to be paid in a timely matter.

Extra Music Ensembles

There are music ensembles that are open for students to audition for membership. Drumline and Jazz Band are open to all band students. If selected, students are expected to attend rehearsals and performances.

Contact Me

Feel free to contact me at the High School if you have any questions. Email is the best way to reach me, but phone calls are also welcome.

Mr. Brett Kroeger
Director of Bands, 5th- 12th
Woonsocket and Sanborn Central School Districts
Email: brett.kroeger@k12.sd.us

Parent/Student Signature Document

Please look these rules/guidelines over and discuss between parents and student. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. By signing, you understand the guidelines/rules that are expected from each student participating in Band. Please acquire the appropriate signatures and return to Mr. Kroeger. **This form is due back Wednesday, August 28th.** It is worth 10 points and will go down a point every day it is late.

Student Name (Print) _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Parent Email (for behavior/grades communication)_____

Performance/ Practice Schedule Fall 2013

(FB-Football, VB-Volleyball, BBB-Boys Basketball, GBB-Girls Basketball)

August

Tues Aug 27th 7pm @ Woonsocket- Parent Informational Meeting for Marching Band

Thurs Aug 29th- Combined Practice @Woonsocket

September

Tues Sep 10th- VB Pep Band @ Sanborn Central

Fri Sep 13th- Combined Practice @Sanborn Central

Thurs Sep 19th- Coronation 7pm

Fri Sep 20th- FB Pep Band@ Sanborn Central Homecoming (Parade during the day)

Tues Sep 24th- VB Pep Band @ Sanborn Central

Thurs Sep 26th- Combined Practice @Woonsocket

Fri Sep 27- Parade in Platte, SD- Pep Band at Game that night

October

Tues Oct 1st- VB Pep Band @ Woonsocket

Thurs Oct 3rd- Combined Practice @Sanborn Central

Fri Oct 4th- Parade in Chester, SD

Tues Oct 8th- VB Pep Band @ Sanborn Central

Thurs Oct 17th- VB Pep Band @ Woonsocket

Thurs Oct. 24th- FB Pep Band @ Woonsocket

Mon Oct 28th- VB Pep Band @ Woonsocket

November

Mon Nov 11th- Veteran's Day Service

Tues Nov 26th- Marching Band Concert

December

Tues Dec 17th- Christmas Concert 7pm

Thurs Dec 19th- GBB & BBB Pep Band @ Woonsocket

****Second Semester Schedule to come*