

ENKA INTERMEDIATE/MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

HANDBOOK

2018-2019

Welcome to the Enka Band Program! Bands have existed in Enka Schools for almost a century, and I am glad that you have chosen to be a part of this tradition of excellence. You are the next generation of our program! The goal of the Enka Band is to always strive for excellence and quality in rehearsal etiquette and musical performance. The success of the band depends on effort, intensity, focus, and a positive attitude.

This handbook will be a tool and reference for how the band will operate throughout the school year. It is intended to ensure that each student will have a successful experience. All students should follow the included procedures and policies. By joining, you agree to perform to the best of your ability and work together with the director to make this year's band the finest musical organization that our combined efforts can produce.

Again, I am looking forward to the new school year and can't wait to get started. Please feel free to contact me at any time with any questions or concerns.

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 828-670-5010

Required Materials for Band Students

Most supplies can be purchased at Music & Arts Center off Fairview Rd in Asheville.

Woodwinds	Brass	Percussion
Instrument	Instrument	Drum kit including snare and bells
3 Vandoren reeds (Cl & Sax) (#2.5 for 6 th Grade, #3 for 7 th +8 th Grade)	Valve Oil (Tpt, Bar, Tuba)	Vic Firth SD1 drum sticks
Tuning rod (Fl)	Slide Oil (TB)	Hard yarn mallets
Swab or cleaning cloth	Tuning Slide Grease	Pencil
Cork Grease (Cl & Sax)	Cleaning cloth	Music
Pencil	Pencil	Music Stand (for home)
Music	Music	Metronome (for home)*
Music Stand (for home)	Music Stand (for home)	Percussion Bag (optional)
Metronome & Tuner (for home)*	Metronome & Tuner (for home)*	

*Most metronomes and tuners can be found and installed for **free** on electronic devices

BOOKS (can be purchased from Amazon Prime OR Music & Arts Center in Asheville)

6th Grade - Sound Innovations, Book 1

7th Grade - Sound Innovations, Book 2

8th Grade - Sound Innovations, Young Bands

ID Your Instrument Case

All instruments must have an attached ID tag or permanent label with your FULL NAME & GRADE. If you leave your instrument somewhere, the ID tag will help you get it back. Percussionists, while their instruments are to be kept at home for practice, are expected to have a pair of sticks with their name clearly written with a permanent marker. The band program, school district, and band director are not responsible for student-owned or rented instruments and materials that are damaged, lost, or stolen.

Step-Up and Professional Instruments

Some students may eventually choose to stop using their beginner instrument and upgrade to a higher quality instrument. If you are considering a new instrument, please consult the director before you purchase. Often the director will know of some more affordable alternatives to brand new step-up instruments.

School-Owned Instrument Rental

The Enka Band program has a very limited number of school-owned instruments that may be rented through the program. These instruments are usually large instruments that cannot be rented through local music stores. Parents and students are allowed to rent these instruments for free and will need to acquire the appropriate mouthpiece and accessories to care for the instrument during the year.

- Students will forfeit their use of a school-owned instrument for any of the following reasons:
 - Poor treatment of the instrument
 - Failing grade in band for any grading period
 - Excessive behavior issues

**If a school-owned instrument is damaged, lost or stolen, procurement of a replacement instrument is the responsibility of the parent or guardian. Students are expected to return the instrument in the same condition it was issued.*

Band Members Expectations

It is a privilege to be a member of the band. Both parents and students should understand that discipline problems are not tolerated. Band students are expected to be mature, responsible and well-behaved representatives of the school at all times. Students who cannot behave and who prohibit other students from learning will be warned. If poor behavior persists, the student may be asked to leave the program. Students are expected to follow all school rules and band expectations. All band member guidelines stem from a respect for each other, equipment, and facilities. All students in the Enka Bands are expected to "Set the Example." This includes behavior in class and in their daily school activities.

Expectations

Students should respect themselves and others by doing the following:

1. Arriving on time, ready within two minutes of the class start bell
2. Raising their hand and waiting to be recognized before speaking
3. Only playing their instrument in class when asked to do so
4. Never bringing gum, food, candy, or drinks into class
5. Doing their BEST! True success is a result of hard work

Classroom Procedures

1. Students are to go to their lockers, use the bathroom and get water before class begins each day. Once class starts you will **not** be allowed to leave unless it is an absolute emergency.
2. Students will enter the classroom through the door nearest the band office QUIETLY.
3. Students will enter and exit the classroom in a quiet and orderly manner. Instrument maintenance should occur before the school day begins or at home.
4. Students will walk into the band room, find their seats, and assemble their instruments quickly. Cases are to be placed under their chair after assembly, except for baritones, tubas, and other large cases.
5. If paperwork needs to be turned in it should be done before class begins or hold it until you pack up.
6. Class will begin when I step on the podium. At this point, students are to immediately stop playing and stand. All materials should be ready and in chronological rehearsal order at this point.
7. Students will always use Proper Playing Position.
8. Students should be silent while the director is on the podium. Questions will be answered only when the director has stepped off. Students with questions should raise their hand and wait to be recognized before speaking.
9. Students are expected to help keep the classroom in a neat and orderly fashion. Students will have an assigned area for their instruments and should return them in a clean manner. If you see something on the floor, pick it up and put it in the right place. Show pride by keeping the room tidy.
10. The director will make announcements and dismiss the class. Students are expected to remain seated and focused on the task at hand until teacher dismissal.
11. Students will line up at the band room door farthest from the office to exit class.

Restroom: You *must* use the restroom before or after band class. If you have a medical problem, please bring me a copy of your doctor's note and we will make arrangements. If it is an emergency (a REAL emergency), take the pass, and hurry back. If you have too many "emergencies", I will contact your parents to find out if you have a medical problem. This is a trust issue.

Discipline Policy

Responsibility to the group is stressed in the Enka Band. Each individual's behavior and performance has a major impact on the other members of the band. Students are expected to exhibit their best behavior at all times. We have a number of visitors/professionals in our classes and at our concerts. You are a representative of our school and band. One incident of poor behavior by one student can ruin the public's good impression of our program and our school. Consequences will align with the school's PBIS policy and contact will be made with parents or guardians as often as needed if issues persist.

Year-long Course

Students will not be allowed to quit or leave class after the first full week of school. Often students will get discouraged when they are not seeing immediate results or improvement and will want to quit. The solution is more practicing and effort outside of class, not quitting. With hard work, playing will improve!

Reward Trip/Overnight Trip Policy

As a member of the Enka Band Program, students are expected to be on exemplary behavior at all times. Therefore, if a student will not be allowed to attend the end-of-the-year reward trip or any overnight field trips if any of the following apply throughout the school year:

- Any instances of OSS
- Any more than two instances of ISS
- Any more than 5 after school detentions
- Any more than 15 absences

Grading Scale

It is the goal of the Enka Band Program that every student has a successful year and earns an "A" in band class. Band is an academic class and therefore will be graded as follows:

- 10% = Written Work
- 10% = Tone Quality
- 10% = Scales
- 20% = Individual Performance Tests
- 50% = Participation*

*Participation includes always encouraging others, having a pencil, entering and exiting the room quietly, raising your hand to ask questions, having all needed supplies, being musically prepared, and displaying proper rehearsal conduct at all times. Remember the Boy Scout motto, "Be Prepared," and you'll be in great shape!

Homework

- Written homework will be rare, but students are expected to practice 5 days per week for 20 minutes each day. Without consistent home practice students will not experience significant progress.
- Amount of practice/individual time with instruments will be determined through weekly in-class performance/scale tests and tone quality. If a student is spending time at home with his/her instrument and is having trouble, he/she is expected to tell the teacher that he/she is having trouble. I will be available before and after school most days for additional help.
- It is essential that the parent or guardian be as supportive and encouraging as possible in this process. It is discouraging to send students to the shed or outside to practice, so please plan accordingly. Patience will be required at times, especially for sixth grade band parents, but it WILL get better. I promise!

Concerts

- All members of the band are required to be at concerts.
- Performances will be counted as 50% of the participation grade (25% of your final grade).
- If no performance occurs during a grading period, in-class performances will be assessed.
- Attendance is mandatory except in the case of extreme illness or family emergency. Students must bring a note immediately upon returning to school for any absences from extra rehearsals or concerts. Students will receive a total attendance grade of ZERO for ANY unexcused missed concert and their grade will be greatly reduced for missed rehearsals. It is impossible to make up a missed rehearsal or performance and other members must carry the extra burden when students are not present. Band is a group activity and 100% participation is essential. There will be no exceptions to this rule and students will not be able to receive a grade higher than a C if they are unexcused from a performance.
- Grade – Promptness- 10 points, Attendance- 20 points, Appropriate Attire- 20 points, Performance Behavior- 25 points, and Students' Audience Behavior- 25 points =Total - 100 points
- *Please go ahead and mark your calendars for ALL of the concert dates listed on the calendar in the back of this handbook! Dates may be subject to change but will likely remain as listed.*

Concert Dress

Students are required to dress appropriately for all concerts. Professional concert attire is as follows:

- Black/White top (collared shirt for boys, NO t-shirts!)
- Black pants (girls may wear skirts that apply to the school dress code)
- Close-toed black dress shoes (these can be found at Wal-Mart for under \$10)

Students will occasionally be asked to wear a type of uniform if they are involved with a chamber ensemble or with the jazz band and that will be discussed during those rehearsals.

Special Activities

All-County, All-District, and All-State Band

7th and 8th grade students are encouraged to audition to become a member of these various Honor Bands. These bands represent the opportunity to play with the highest caliber musicians in our area and a special guest clinician. Students will receive audition material at beginning of the school year and should begin practicing it ASAP. 7th grade students must perform their audition material for Mr. Kimbrough before registration. Students selected for the band will then participate in the clinic. If students place in the top of their section they are eligible to audition for the NC All State Honor Band.

Jazz Band

Students who are members of the jazz band will have the opportunity to play several different exciting styles of music in a smaller group than traditional concert band. Styles include swing, blues, rock, Latin, and funk. Those who are selected to be in this group will have the opportunity to audition for all-region jazz and participate in Western Region Jazz Music Performance Assessment.

Solo and Ensemble

During the year, the director may give students extra music to challenge and motivate continued musicianship. Students can prepare solo pieces or small ensemble pieces with like instruments. Solo and Ensemble Festival is held in May. Solo and Ensemble music is an addition to concert music (class material). Students must first demonstrate mastery on class material before the director will encourage participation in this event.

Fundraising

Band students are encouraged to participate in band fundraisers. Participation in fundraisers is voluntary, but it is important for everyone to contribute. The EMS band will have several fundraisers. We will be sending home information as details are finalized for each fundraiser.

Band Field Trips

There may be between 1-3 band field trips this year. These are *excellent* opportunities for students to experience live music in a variety of different settings and genres. We highly encourage as many students to attend as possible, especially if the trip is free!

7th and/or 8th Grade Band Nights

As a part of a band program, involvement with the high school program as extremely important. There will be opportunities for 8th grade students to rehearse and perform with the high schoolers, and these are free to students. Please encourage your child to take advantage of these sneak peaks so they can know what to look forward to when they get into high school. One will be in the Fall at a football game and the other will be in the Spring with the concert band.

Chamber Ensembles

There may be opportunities for students to participate in smaller performance ensembles before school. These will help students in performance and technique. These ensembles include percussion ensemble, woodwind ensembles, and jazz combos.

ENKA INTERMEDIATE/MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND DATES

Parents, please mark these dates on your calendar as they are required performances depending on your child's grade level or performance group. Some dates may be subject to change.

September 21st Band Night @ EHS Football Game

September 29th EMS Anthem Perf @EHS Marching Competition

November 9th Veteran's Day Performance @EMS Gym

November 14th All County Auditions (after school @OMS)

November 26th-27th All County Clinic (during school @OHS)

December 6th EIS Band Concert @ Gym

December 11th Concert @EMS Gym

January 12th West Region Jazz Auditions

January 19th All-District Auditions

February 1st-2nd West Region Jazz Clinic (during school)

February 8th-9th All-District Clinic (during school)

March 2nd All-State Auditions

March 10th Pre-MPA Performance @EHS Auditorium

March 19th-22nd MPA (during school two of these days)

April 11th-12th All-State Jazz (during school)

May 3rd-5th- All-State Honors Band Clinic (during school)

May 11th Jazz MPA

May 16th 7th Grade and Jazz Concert @EMS Gym

May 21st 8th grade concert @EHS Auditorium

Enka Intermediate/Middle School Band 2018-2019

All Information provided will be filed in the band office and remain confidential.

Student Name _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Last Name
First Name
Middle Initial

Shirt Size (Youth M or L; Adult S, M, L) _____ Home Room Teacher _____

Parent/Guardian Email _____

Student Email _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Student Home Phone _____ Student Date of Birth _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

P/G Cell Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Statement of Responsibility

I have completely read the Enka Intermediate/Middle School Band Handbook. I understand and agree to follow each policy outlined. I understand that failing to do so may affect my grade or my status in the Enka Band Program. I understand that my contribution to the band is an important part of the ensemble's success. I understand that if I miss an extra rehearsal or concert that my grade and my participation in the ensemble will be affected, unless that absence has been excused. I understand that band is a yearlong class and I will not be allowed to withdraw from the class after the first week of school.

Student Name (*print*) _____

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

I have read and understand all the rules, expectations and guidelines outlined in the Enka Band Handbook for my child during the 2018-2019 school year.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____