

Northmor High School

Band Handbook 2020

- I. **Welcome** to the Northmor Band Program! The goal of Northmor Bands is to provide students with a well-rounded education that promotes positive learning of music, leadership, and teamwork. Students will benefit through the preparation and performance of many types of music, many times throughout the school year. We strive to provide professionalism and pride, both in our school and in each student. *This year will be different than any other previous season due to COVID-19. At all times, we will be following approved and appropriate protocols developed and recommended by the Governor of Ohio, CDC, the Ohio Department of Health, and the Morrow County Health Department, and Northmor Board of Education.*

Rehearsals are an important precursor of any band.

- A. Arrive in the room by tardy bell---Tardiness will affect your grade and will be turned in to the main office.
- B. Promptly get instrument, chair, music stand, folder, and pencil.
- C. Keep all other belongings underneath the chair during rehearsal.
- D. Talking will not be permitted during rehearsals. You will lose your daily participation points if you are caught disrupting rehearsal.
- E. Practice and preparation are the keys to a productive rehearsal.
- F. You **MUST HAVE A PENCIL** at all rehearsals.
- G. No gum, candy, food, or drinks (besides water) are permitted during rehearsal.
- H. Do not touch any instrument that does not belong to you.
- I. Foul language (as deemed by director, not student) will not be tolerated.
- J. Learn your part thoroughly. Home practice will be a requirement during your band career.
- K. Practice the way you want to perform.
- L. Positive attitudes will always be welcomed.

Attendance

- ii. One of the functions of the band is to perform. The individual development of skills, which have been molded in the large group situation, can be evaluated by successful performance. Since each student has a responsibility to play his/her part, attendance by all is important. Any excused or unexcused absences will **severely** hurt your grade. Band is a team effort, and every member is crucial to our success. Your absence not only affects your performance, but every other member of the ensemble as well. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is required. Missing rehearsals does give the director the discretion to 'bench' a student, until the student learns the material.

This is a performance-based class; therefore, if you cannot attend performances, you should not be in this class. The only excused absences for a performance are as follows: a death in the family, a personal illness, or an impossible-to-switch commitment that occurs on a rare occasion. Non-Northmor sporting events, work, or Non-Northmor events are not excused absences. *All excused absences must be in writing, signed by a parent before the performance, if possible. All other absences for any rehearsal or concert will be dealt with on an individual basis at the discretion of the director.* A performance cannot be re-created!

An absence form will need to be completed and signed by a parent after each missed rehearsal/performance. These will be kept on file.

Please schedule your work schedule around rehearsal/performances. The director will provide written proof to any employer if this is a problem. Employers are usually cooperative if they know of conflicts well in advance. **Job conflicts are not an excuse for missing band functions.**

This attendance policy is intended to make sure that every member is doing his or her share in this team effort, providing the greatest musical experience possible for all that are involved.

- iii. **Grades** are earned in this class, not given. An 'A' is attainable by students who are cooperative and hardworking during rehearsal and who give their best effort at performances. Grades will be based on daily participation, attendance, written work, and performances.

Band is a yearlong course, so if you sign up you are in for the year. An option for make-up work is to perform the concert/marching band music for the director before or after school for a grade.

Written Work and Tests---are given at the discretion of the director, including 'Mad Minute Mondays!'.

Performances

Performances are required and count as specified above. **You must be in school at least ½ day to perform at the concert.** This is specified in the student handbook you receive on the first day of school. All Concerts are worth 300 points in Junior High and High School.

Participation Points

10 points are possible every day. They can be lost by causing any disruption (5 points for 1st offense, 0 points thereafter) of class or by unexcused absences. Five points are lost for each tardy accumulated.

***If you are not willing to work hard and perform in this class
It is NOT for you.***

You must take responsibility for yourself to earn your grade in band!

- IV. **Performance Dress** is full **uniform** for the high school marching band and nice BLACK & WHITE 'dress clothes' for concert band. Boys will be required to wear a tie. **No short skirts are permitted for the girls. Dresses must be past the bottom of the knee! NO JEANS or tennis shoes!**

Performance may be denied and/or points deducted for not being in the correct performance attire.

The Band T-shirts, shorts, and crew length **black** socks must be purchased and worn under the uniform (no jeans). The high school students must also pay for band shoes, gloves, and uniform dry-cleaning fees. Hanging jewelry must be removed, and all long hair must be pulled-up. Participation will be denied if not in uniform.

- v. **Field Trips** are at the discretion of the director. All school rules apply while on the trip. Any missed work in other classes must be made up on time. Other teachers may request that you do not attend because of missed days/work in

their class. Any students suspended during the current semester are not eligible to attend.

- vi. **Fees** for band must be paid for by the specified date set by the director. Not paying fees by the assigned date may result in the student not being allowed to perform and therefore losing points accordingly. If there is a financial hardship, please contact the director.

Cell Phones

Cell Phones are not permitted to be used during any rehearsal time or in the stands at a football game. The phone will be confiscated if used for talking or texting at an inappropriate time.

Mr. Kaschube
ckaschube@knightpride.org

Parental Consent to Travel with the BAND

I hereby give my permission for my child _____ to attend a field trips with the Northmor Marching Band to Marching Band events and do agree to save and hold harmless from and release and give up any and all claims against the said school system and teacher for liability arising from the intentional or negligent act of other organizations or individuals involved in this field trip.

Parent _____

Date _____

BAND HANDBOOK 2020

I have read and understand the rules of the Northmor Band for the 2020-2021 school-year.

Parents Signature: _____

Students Signature: _____

Date: _____

Stand Conduct

- Good bands look organized at all times. Conduct in the stands at football games is a vital portion of the impression we leave with the public.
- Be alert: Watch the game, the director, and field commander. Be prepared to play the fight song after each touchdown. Please do not play your instrument unless the entire band is playing.
- While in the stands, only band members and band alumni will be able to sit in the band block.
- No food and only water may be consumed in the stands during the 1st half of the game. Refreshments will be served/bought during the 3rd quarter.
- Stay in uniform, minus hat and gloves when leaving the stands.
- All members of the band will return by the time there is one minute remaining in the 3rd quarter.
- Watch your instrument constantly to avoid damage. Make sure your instrument and hat are safe when you leave for refreshments/rest rooms. You are responsible for your instrument at all times and will be held liable if it is broken.
- Never leave the stands without permission of the band director.
- Public display of affection will not be tolerated unless you are married.
- You are a representative of Northmor High School and our band!!

“HARD WORK DEVELOPS PRIDE AND PRIDE MAKES HARD WORK SEEM EASY”

Bus Conduct

- All school rules apply.

- Profanity will not be tolerated.
- Maintain silence at all railroad crossings.
- Use moderation in singing and talking.
- Keep hands and arms inside the bus at all times.
- Stay in your seats while the bus is in motion.
- Girls and boys may not sit in the same seat.
- The director reserves the right to assign seats.
- By law the bus driver is in charge of the bus. By MY LAW, the chaperones are also in control of the bus.
- Do not load or unload unless asked to do so.
- Do not ask to change buses on the return trip.
- If leaving with a parent, a note or personal contact is required from your parent.
- Do not yell out bus windows or antagonize fans.
- When arriving back at school, leave the bus as you found it—clean, with the windows up.
- Taking pictures or the light from your cell phone may distract the driver. Use common sense.
- Depending on the situation, as seen by the band director, you are subject to being left behind if you miss a departure time. It is YOUR responsibility to be on the bus at the designated time, both leaving and returning to school.
- It is your responsibility to make sure your equipment is loaded and unloaded off of the bus.
- Be polite to all adults, including drivers and chaperones
- Show respect for other bands you will see. Their band is not better or worse, just different.

“YOUR MOTHER IS NOT IN THE BAND...CLEAN UP YOUR OWN MESS!”

INSTRUMENT TRANSPORTATION AND CARE

- Instruments placed on the band bus should be properly cased and handled by the musician who plays them.

- When your instrument is transported on the band bus, it is your responsibility to make sure that it gets on and off the band bus.
- Make sure your instrument is properly identified/identifiable.
- Woodwinds should keep a plastic bag in their case that is big enough to cover your instrument in case of rain.
- Clarinets and flutes should be cleaned out after each practice and performance.
- Clean your mouthpieces each week with warm, soapy water.
- Brass instruments should be cleaned frequently. Make good use of valve oil and slide grease.
- You are expected to keep your instrument case securely closed at all times. All latches must be closed. If you are playing a school instrument and do not close the case, the instrument may be taken from you.
- Do not store your instrument in your case unless it was designed for that purpose.

THE MORE YOU APPRECIATE MUSIC, THE MORE MUSIC YOU WILL APPRECIATE”

Student Roles of Band Members

- Responsibility: first to yourself and then to the group; be a part of the group and try to contribute, positively communicate and participate to aid in the success of the group.

- Develop a Positive Attitude: by cooperating, accepting change, correction, constructive criticism, and learning how to work with others.
- Learn to Respect Yourself: be proud of what you are doing; respect your directors, instructors, band room property, others' personal property, and respect your fellow members.
- Respect Other Group Members
- Be a Positive Role Model: your dedication, attitude, and contribution should show others you are glad to be a part of the group.
- Be a Good Listener: encourage others to share things about themselves; give support and encouragement
- Strive to Work as One
- School Spirit: As a member of the Northmor Band, you will be an advocate and promoter of school spirit. With that comes great responsibility.

“WE SHOULD ALWAYS STRIVE TO BE AN INDIVIDUAL GROUP, NOT A GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS”

HOW TO PRACTICE

Rhythm

- Write in the counting
- Count and clap the rhythm
- Play the rhythm

Notes

- Clap the rhythm and read the note names out loud
- Read the note names out loud as you finger your instrument

Exercises/Phrases

- Divide the music into short phrases
- Start slowly and repeat the phrase as many times as necessary until it is perfect.
- Repeat this process for phrase 2
- Play phrase 1 and 2 together until perfect
- Learn phrase 3 the same way
- Play phrase 1, 2, and 3 together

“SUCCESS DEPENDS ON THE SECOND LETTER”

What is a Band Parent?

A band parent is one who knows that their child is by far the best and most talented band student ever. From the first note, (perhaps a squeak or honk is more descriptive) through the monotonous scales, the parent is amazed because this young musician is learning fast.

A band parent quickly learns that it requires considerable hard-work, time, and money for their child to participate in band. After extending credit to purchase an instrument, the harried parent is introduced to fund-raising. This means selling hotdogs, popcorn, and soft

drinks during football, basketball, volleyball, track, etc. games, sometimes while the band is doing the half-time show. In between the runs on the concession stand, the parent dreams of when oil will be discovered on the New School property that will finance all school functions beginning with the band.

A band parent is a calm multipurpose machine who can bring order out of the chaos of getting ready for a high school football game. Dad rushes to make sure they are on time, while mom washes the band shirt, finds the other black sock, cooks a quick dinner, removes a mustard stain from the uniform pants, and herds the family in the mini-van for the speed-breaking dash to Northmor.

The following week the game is away from Northmor and the band parent is a chaperone, bus driver, nurse, informant, PDA officer, and dispenser of hair spray, safety pins, money, shoe laces, and a sundry of other essential items. A band parent relives the childhood memories of a cold (or hot) slow moving school bus with shouting, singing, sleeping band members.

Those parents attending the away games get to see the half-time show; but unless they move the 'opponent side', they will only see the back of the band and hear the echo.

A band parent is one who criticizes the director for calling extra practice sessions, praises him for instilling team work and discipline, and defends him from outside critics who scoff at the program.

On graduation day a band parent is a relieved person. No more hectic pre-game nights, no more fund-raising activities, and vacations can be taken anytime and not scheduled around band camp.

A band parent is one who has a younger child who then announces, 'Guess what, I am joining the band!', and the parent can't wait to start the process again!