

Dutch Fork Middle School Band – Rules and Discipline

All students are expected to come to class with instruments and all necessary materials each day. This includes music, band book, reeds, mouthpieces, valve oil, sticks, and mallets.

Students are expected to do their best each class.

Students must show respect to the teacher, themselves, and all of their fellow band members at all times. This means only talking and playing at appropriate times and positive comments only.

Students are expected to show respect for all instruments and equipment. Students may only touch and play the instrument that has been purchased for their use or that has been checked out to them for the school year.

We will be spending the first few days of band class learning and practicing the expected behaviors in detail. We call these “Teach To’s”. After the expected behaviors are thoroughly taught, the students will be responsible for following these rules. If a child chooses to misbehave he/she will be given one request to correct their behavior. If they choose to continue to disrupt instruction they will be sent to the refocus area. In the refocus area the student will have a sheet that must be completed. Filling out the refocus sheet gives the student an opportunity to take ownership of their behavior and also reinforces the expected correct behavior. It is important to realize that this is not a punishment. Completing the refocus sheet should only take about 5 minutes and then the student will be invited to rejoin band class.

If a student is sent to refocus he/she is expected to make up the work that is missed. This will be done in one of two ways. Either I will ask the student to practice at home for the amount of time that was missed while refocusing, or the student will see me before or after school. If the student is expected to make up the time at home, I will send a sheet that will list what is to be practiced and the amount of time to practice. This is in addition to regular required practice. I ask that you sign this sheet after your child practices. Please remember that refocus is not a punishment so please do not feel that you need to give a consequence at home. The form should then be returned to me the following class. If it is not returned then the child will be required to stay with me either before or after school.

If a student has to be sent to refocus more than twice in a week, there will be extra consequences. In addition, there are some behaviors that will require stronger discipline measures. An example of this would be violating a school rule, anything that is a safety issue, or any other behavior that I feel must be dealt with in a more drastic manner. In these cases or in the case of a student who is repeatedly going to refocus we will use the school infraction code.

The steps that will be taken if needed are:

Parent contact

Lunch Detention

After School Detention

Discipline Referral

Dutch Fork Middle School Band Handbook

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DFMSBand.org

Welcome to the Dutch Fork Middle Band! I am so glad to be here and have the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful school and band program. The Dutch Fork middle school band is going to have a great year. I look forward to hearing many great things from this group this year!

The Mission of the DFMS Band:

To provide each student with quality music education while teaching him/her the responsibility, commitment, and self-discipline of being in band and learning to play an instrument.

Expectations:

All students are expected to come to band class prepared each day with all necessary equipment and materials.

All students are expected to give their best effort in class each day and at performances.

All students are expected to show a positive attitude each class.

All students are expected to behave respectfully toward the director, fellow band members, and all equipment.

All students are expected to practice their instrument outside of class the required amount each week.

All students are expected to perform in the 2 required evening concerts each year. These dates are **Wednesday, December 16 and Tuesday, April 27.**

Student Information

Please return this form completed ASAP. I would like to make an email distribution list so please provide me with current emails. I promise there will be no SPAM.

Student's Name _____ Team _____

Adult Shirt Size _____

Grade _____ Instrument _____ Serial Number _____

Mailing Address _____

Home Phone Number _____

Mother's Name _____

Work # _____ Cell # _____

Email _____

Father's Name _____

Work # _____ Cell # _____

Email _____

Is there anything you want me to know about your child?

Grading

Students will be graded on their participation and performance in band class and required events. The most important thing is for students to come to band class prepared each day. This includes all music, books, and required accessories for the student's instrument. Students who repeatedly come to class unprepared will have a low band grade. Playing and written tests will also be given frequently. Each student will also be expected to turn in a practice chart weekly. Because this is a performance based class, students who continually misbehave and disrupt learning will also see their grade negatively affected.

Required Supplies

All students are to have a binder, preferably black, with page protectors. The notebook will be used to organize sheet music, practice records, and any other necessary papers for band class.

Reed players: Must provide their own reed that is in good condition for each class.

Brass Players: Must have their own valve oil and slide grease.

Percussion: Must have 1 pair of snare drum sticks – Vic Firth SD1

1 pair of hard rubber mallets

1 pair of medium hard yarn mallets

Suggested – stick bag to store and protect them

All percussion students need to have a set of practice bells that stay at home for practice.

7th grade required books:

Standard of Excellence Books 1 & 2 – Book 1 is from last year, one copy of book 2 will be provided for each student. This is purchased with band fee money.

8th grade required books:

Standard of Excellence Books 2 & 3 – Book 2 is from last year, one copy of book 3 will be provided for each student. This is purchased with band fee money.

Please note the books that are provided. There is only 1 book provided for each student. If it is lost it will be your responsibility to purchase one at the local music store.

Daily Participation

Students are expected to play each band class. A student will only be excused from playing if he/she has a doctor's note specifying that they are not to play. If the student's instrument is being repaired, I need a note from a parent stating that the instrument is at the repair shop and the student should still bring their books and music and mouthpiece. Many times I have an extra instrument that I can loan them for class.

Practice Record

The students will also have a practice record that is to be filled out and returned each week. The practice record will be graded based on the number of minutes practice for the week. For example, if the students practices for 100 minutes in a week their grade will be 100. If they practice 70 minutes, the grade is a 70. If they do not turn in a practice sheet or practice 0 minutes the grade is a zero. If your child takes private lessons their lesson time counts as practice time.

Concert Attendance

Students are expected to attend the required concerts and events. These are:

Winter Concert – December 16 at 7:00pm in the DFMS cafeteria

Spring Concert – April 27 at 7:00pm in the DFMS cafeteria

Performance Attire

The required **formal** performance attire will be either all black or black pants/skirt and a white dress shirt. Clean all black shoes for both boys and girls. For boys it is required that your shirt has a collar. For girls it is required that your top be dressy, no t-shirts. **NO T-SHIRTS, DENIUM, OR ATHLETIC APPAREL ALLOWED.**

The required **informal** performance attire will be the band t-shirt provided when your child has paid the \$25 fee. We will wear these for pep rallies, and school performances. Unless otherwise specified, these can be worn with jeans or shorts and any style shoe.

Instrument Storage

All instruments should be clearly labeled with the students first and last name. Students will be assigned a designated shelf to store their instrument in the band room. This is for storage during the school day, not for overnight storage. I expect students to practice especially on the days they don't have band class, therefore, their instrument needs to go home each day. The school and band director cannot be held responsible for any instrument left in the band room especially if it is left overnight. Please keep a record of the instrument serial number at home and also put it on the student information sheet. If anything were to happen to your instrument, the serial number is necessary to recover it.

Band Fee

All students are expected to pay a \$25 band fee. This fee is due by September 1. This is in addition to the fee that was paid at registration and will pay for a DFMS band t-shirt for your child. Please be sure to return the student information form with the t-shirt size included. The band fee can either be returned to me during class, mailed to the school with my name on it, or dropped in the drop box outside of my office door. Please do not send cash and be sure to include the student's name.

Booster Club

The DFMS Booster Club has now been integrated with the Dutch Fork High School Booster Club. This will be very advantageous to both of our programs as we grow the Dutch Fork Band Programs. The booster club usually meets at 7:00 on the second Tuesday of each month.

Fundraisers

We will be doing two fundraisers this school year. The first one is our annual cookie dough sale and that will begin on September 8. The second will take place in January. The money we earn will be used to purchase supplies and music and will help to maintain and repair school instruments and equipment.

After School Honor Band

Students will have the opportunity to be in the after school honor band. The honor band will rehearse once a week beginning the week of November 16. The honor band will travel to concert festival and Carowinds band festival in the spring. Students will be invited to join the honor band based on the following criteria: behavior in band class, preparation for class, regular and consistent practice, effort, performance on playing and written tests. This group will be chosen by November 2. I will send letters home in October with more information for the students who are invited to join this band.

School Instruments

Students who use a school instrument are required to pay a \$50 non refundable rental fee each year. This fee is due by September 5 as well as the instrument use form. The instrument use form must be signed by both the student and their parent. Any student who does not take proper care of a school instrument will lose the privilege of its use.

Private Lessons

All students can benefit from studying privately on their instrument. This is an opportunity for your child to receive one on one attention from a quality instructor. This is especially helpful since we have classes with mixed instruments and as many as 40 children in a class. The list of private instructors can be found on the DFMS band website.

My Contact Information:

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732-8167 ext. 506

Band room is room 506

My lunch/planning period is from 11:10 – 1:40, if you need to call me this is this best time. Also between 3:15 and 3:45 is a good time.