

# Station Band Handbook

Dear Parents and Students,

We would like to welcome you to the Hilliard Station Band program. This year you will have the opportunity to continue to be a part of the tradition of high-quality music that is part of the Hilliard City School District. We would like to communicate with you the important events of the year as well as additional information about band. We look forward to working with your talented musicians!

Sincerely,  
Diana Nicklas,  
Station Band Director

## Station 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Grading Policy

Band members will be evaluated each quarter in five major areas:

- **Performances**
  - As an important part of the band experience, we do have a few out-of-school concerts.
  - Performances are mandatory and worth 50 points. Any conflict needs to be in writing and given to a director BEFORE the concert. Illness and family emergencies need to be in writing and given to Mrs. Nicklas as soon as possible to be given an alternative assignment.
- **Daily Participation and Attendance**
  - Students are expected to attend and bring all materials necessary every day. Each day is worth 2 participation points. Any day a student forgets his/her instrument is -1 points, missing book or pencil is -1 point and \*unexcused absences are -2 points.
  - An unexcused absence is any day that the student is in school but does not attend band. Students are expected to attend band during their 50 min scheduled class every day, unless excused by a band director prior to the start of class.
- **Practice Logs**
  - Students are expected to maintain a record of consistent practice to be turned in weekly starting in the second nine weeks. Each practice sheet is worth 3 points. The students' goal is 3 days of practice each week, for 20 mins each day.
  - If a student cannot practice for several days during the week (i.e. repair, illness, vacation, etc.), the student should indicate this reason on the practice sheet and still turn it in for credit. These reasons will be taken into consideration when a grade is given.
  - Private lessons and any non-school performances can be marked on the practice sheet for credit. All practice sheets must be signed by an adult to receive credit.

- **Musicianship (playing quizzes and rhythm worksheets)**
  - Students will be required to periodically perform playing quizzes and do written worksheets to evaluate musical progress and understanding of knowledge. ALL worksheets and playing quizzes will be announced for students to practice and prepare.
- **Homework**
  - There will be occasionally out of school written assignments in addition to the expected practice minutes. Station homework policies apply.

### **Required Performance Dates**

Station Band students will participate in 2 afterschool performances and 2 dress rehearsals prior to the scheduled performances. Instrumental music performances are equivalent to a “unit test” in a core course, resulting in a large portion of the students’ quarter grade.

50 points will be given for every concert and 10 points are given for each dress rehearsal.

In the beginning of the school year, all concert dates and dress rehearsal dates will be sent home via email. There will be one concert/dress rehearsal in the fall semester and one concert/dress rehearsal in the spring semester.

Written notification of a student’s absence is required to give the student an alternative assignment for a missed performance or dress rehearsal. Failure to participate in a concert, without written guardian excuse will result in a 0 for the performance assignment.

### **Required Concert Attire**

To display uniformity, students are required to wear the following attire for Station Band performances. There is no dress requirement for dress rehearsals.

- Station Band T-shirt
- Black from the waist down
  - Black pants, black skirt with black tights or leggings
  - No ripped jeans, no sweatpants/joggers, leggings may be worn under a skirt but not as a single garment.
- Black socks and shoes

### **Practice Logs Additional Information**

Students are expected to maintain a record of consistent practice to be turned in weekly. Practicing is essential to the success of each band member. Students who practice consistently are more successful on their instrument and enjoy playing more.

Practice Sheets are a required part of the band grade in the Station Band. Students receive a practice sheet every Monday and turn it in the following Monday. All practice sheets are worth 3 points. Students will receive 1 point each day they practice for 20 mins.

Students should follow the weekly Practice Log PDF to ensure that they include some “sectional”, some “lesson” and some “full band” music.

Students may add Private Lessons as practice minutes on the chart. Be sure to mark down “Private Lesson”.

All practice logs MUST be signed by a guardian for students to receive credit.

If a student meets the 3-day, 20 min practice requirement, additional time practiced is rewarded with a ½ point of extra credit for each additional 20 mins practiced.

Practice sheets are accepted late, for partial credit.

## What does my student need for band?

In addition to their instrument, your student will need a few essential items for each band class. These items may come with your instrument rental (please ask your instrument provider). If they are not included with the instrument rental, you can order them at the same time you order your instrument with a local instrument rental company, or you may purchase them separately at a music store. Certain items you will need to continue to replenish throughout the year as needed (i.e. reeds and valve oil).

### FLUTES:

- Cleaning Rod
- Cleaning cloth (can be a small handkerchief)
- **METHOD BOOK:** “*Measures of Success*” Book 1
- pencil
- Music Stand: HIGHLY recommended for home practice

### OBOES:

- Oboe Swab (cleaning cloth)
- 2 good reeds
- Reed Case (not required, but HIGHLY recommended to protect reeds)
- Cork Grease
- Thumb Eez – recommended for comfort
- Water container (can be an old prescription bottle)
- **METHOD BOOK:** “*Measures of Success*” Book 1
- pencil
- Music Stand: HIGHLY recommended for home practice

### CLARINETS:

- Clarinet Swab (cleaning cloth)
- Mouthpiece Cap
- Thumb Eez – recommended for comfort
- 3 good reeds (Mitchell Lurie size 2 1/2)

- Reed Guard (not required, but HIGHLY recommended to protect reeds)
- Cork Grease
- **METHOD BOOK:** *“Measures of Success”* Book 1
- pencil
- Music Stand: HIGHLY recommended for home practice

#### **SAXOPHONES:**

- Saxophone Swab (cleaning cloth) – Silk swab preferred!
- Mouthpiece Cap
- End Cap
- Neck Strap – padded preferred for comfort
- 3 good reeds (Rico Royal size 2 1/2 or LaVoz Medium)
- Reed Guard (not required, but HIGHLY recommended to protect reeds)
- Cork Grease
- **METHOD BOOK:** *“Measures of Success”* Book 1
- pencil
- Music Stand: HIGHLY recommended for home practice

#### **TRUMPETS:**

- 5C trumpet mouthpiece
- Valve Oil – Al Cass preferred
- Tuning Slide Grease – Conn preferred
- Mouthpiece Brush
- **METHOD BOOK:** *“Measures of Success”* Book 1
- pencil
- Music Stand: HIGHLY recommended for home practice

#### **FRENCH HORNS:**

- C4 Girdinelli horn mouthpiece
- Rotor Oil – Al Cass preferred
- Tuning Slide Grease – Conn preferred
- Mouthpiece Brush
- **METHOD BOOK:** *“Measures of Success”* Book 1
- pencil
- Music Stand: HIGHLY recommended for home practice

#### **TROMBONES:**

- 6 1/2 AL trombone mouthpiece
- Slide Oil – Liquid slide cream preferred
- Tuning Slide Grease – Conn preferred
- Mouthpiece Brush
- **METHOD BOOK:** *“Measures of Success”* Book 1
- pencil
- Music Stand: HIGHLY recommended for home practice

#### **BARITONES:**

- 6 1/2 AL baritone mouthpiece
- Valve Oil – Al Cass preferred
- Tuning Slide Grease – Conn preferred
- Mouthpiece Brush
- Mouthpiece Pouch
- **METHOD BOOK:** *“Measures of Success”* Book 1
- pencil
- Music Stand: HIGHLY recommended for home practice

**TUBAS:**

- Helleburg beginning tuba mouthpiece
- Mouthpiece pouch
- Mouthpiece brush
- **METHOD BOOK:** *“Measures of Success”* Book 1
- pencil
- Music Stand: HIGHLY recommended for home practice

**PERCUSSION:**

- Xylophone kit – preferably the wooden kit on wheels for easier transport. Xylophone kit should include: Wooden bells, snare pad, bell stand, mallets, and snare sticks
- **METHOD BOOK:** *“Measures of Success”* Book 1
- pencil
- Music Stand: HIGHLY recommended for home practice

Please feel free to contact me at Hilliard Station Sixth Grade at 921-6800 or [Diana\\_Nicklas@hboe.org](mailto:Diana_Nicklas@hboe.org). Parental support and encouragement are vitally important for your child’s musical life. Thank you in advance for your support!