

IRMS Bands

School year overview

Welcome to band!

Regardless of your previous musical experience, by the end of the year you should be able to:

- Play your instrument at a higher level than when you started.
- Demonstrate pitch- and rhythm-reading skills appropriate for your grade level.
- Play your instrument alone and with at least one other “voice” – either with a recording or with classmates
- Evaluate and discuss music and music performances (including your own) using music vocabulary.
- Use technology as a tool to help you achieve all of this!

Grading Policy

Subject to adjustment for clarity or to better fit needs of class

Participation & Rehearsal Skills – 35%:

- Class meetings
- Canvas: Discussion posts, reflections

Assessments – 25%:

- Demonstrate what you’ve learned about playing your instrument, reading music, music history, theory, or anything else music-related!
- All instrument-based assessments will be submitted on Canvas, using your webcam and computer microphone.
- Most tests and quizzes can be re-taken. Deadlines for re-takes will be posted.

Classwork/Homework – 20%:

- At-home practice on your instrument: 4 times per week
- Canvas: worksheets or other miscellaneous assignments
- Late work may be turned in up to 7 days late for credit. After that it will not be accepted.

Performances – 20%:

- Grading:
 - Quality of contribution to online/live performance (see Music Skills) AND:
 - Presentation (professionalism, uniform, etc)
- Performance dates (details subject to change based on updated health guidelines):

<u>6th Grade</u>	<u>7th Grade</u>	<u>8th Grade</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• December 14 @ 6pm• March 15 @ 6:30pm• May 26, Time TBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• October 12 @ 7pm [cancelled]• December 14 @ 7:30pm• March 15 @ 7:30pm• March 16, Time TBA (Cashmere band festival)• May 26, Time TBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• October 12 @ 7pm [cancelled]• December 14 @ 7:30pm• March 15 @ 7:30pm• March 16, Time TBA (Cashmere band festival)• May 14, Time TBA (Leavenworth Maifest Parade)• May 26, Time TBA• June 4, Time TBA (Peshastin parade; AM only)• June 11, 6:00pm (CHS Graduation)

Absences:

- If you missed an assignment due to an absence, you will have one additional day for each day you were gone. If you need more than that, please arrange it with me directly.
- Only partial credit is available for missed performances; please communicate with Mr. Mitsuyasu as early as possible if you will be absent from one of the dates listed above.

Required Materials

- Band method book:
 - 6th & 7th Grade Band, and all Percussion: *Essential Elements Interactive, Book 1*
 - 8th Grade Band: *Essential Elements Interactive, Book 1*
- Music folder: keep printed sheet music, your method book, and any other papers for band in this folder. Be sure nothing gets wrinkled or torn!
- Pencil: NEVER a pen or colored pencil, even if it's erasable! Keep it in your music folder to mark up your music – even professional musicians do this!
- Instrument in working condition. This includes reeds, mouthpieces, and appropriate sticks and mallets.
 - **Flute:** Cleaning Rod, Cleaning Cloth (Half of a handkerchief works well)
 - **Clarinet & Bass Clarinet:** Reeds cotton pull-through swab, cork grease, reed guard or reed case
 - Keep a minimum of 3 NEW reeds in your case at all times.
 - Recommended reeds: Rico Royal, Mitchell Lurie, or VanDoren – size 2.5 or 3 (size 2 OK for beginning band students)
 - **Saxophone:** Reeds swab, cork grease, end cap, reed case, neck strap.
 - Keep a minimum of 3 NEW reeds in your case at all times.
 - Recommended reeds: Rico Royal, Mitchell Lurie, or VanDoren – size 2.5 or 3 (size 2 OK for beginning band students)
 - **Trumpet:** valve oil, tuning slide grease, cleaning snake, mouthpiece brush
 - **Trombone:** – slide cream w/ spray bottle OR slide oil, tuning slide grease, cleaning snake, mouthpiece brush
 - **Percussion** (7th & 8th grade only):
 - Stick bag labeled with name and phone number
 - Set of general snare drum sticks (Vic Firth 5A or roughly equivalent)
 - Set of hard plastic or nylon glockenspiel mallets (Innovative Percussion #F10 or comparable)
 - Set of hard rubber xylophone mallets (Innovative Percussion #F9 or comparable)
 - Set of medium-hard cord or yarn vibraphone mallets (Innovative Percussion #F4; Smith Mallets L1V2 or L1V3; or comparable)
 - Set of medium-hard marimba mallets (Smith Mallets L1M3 or L1M4, or comparable)
- Recommended equipment:
 - Tuner and Metronome: Korg TM60, or download an app on your smartphone.
 - Percussion only: Practice pad for at-home use: Evans 12" RealFeel or Vic Firth 12" single-sided practice pad

School-owned Instruments

Music can be an expensive area of study, but we want to make sure ALL students may participate regardless of financial ability! If you don't have a friend or family member who can loan you an instrument and you can't afford to rent one, there is a limited number of basic band instruments available through a checkout

procedure. Although we may not be able to provide you with your first-choice instrument, we should have something for you to get started on and feel successful.

Other instruments are very expensive to purchase or rent and may be available to check out. These instruments include: bass clarinet, baritone horn/euphonium, tuba, and baritone sax. Smaller instruments may be available, but these are in limited supply so students may not get their first choice of instrument if needing to borrow from the school. The school also provides large percussion instruments, but percussionists must provide their own appropriate sticks and mallets. A stick bag with the student's name and contact information on it will help keep sticks organized.

In order to be issued a school owned instrument, the parent and student must sign an instrument check out form acknowledging that they take full responsibility for the instrument while it is in their care. **There is a fee of \$100 for school-owned instruments. Please make arrangements for payment by September 30th.** This fee covers cleaning and regular maintenance of the instrument. Instruments cannot be taken home until the fee is paid, but please speak with Mr. M if this cost is a financial hardship for your family. The student is responsible for general upkeep of his/her instrument and should report any damage or needed repairs for the instrument during the year. The student must also provide his/her own reeds, oils, and other accessories. If any maintenance on the instrument is needed, the student should tell Mr. Mitsuyasu right away. PLEASE SPEAK WITH Mr. M BEFORE PERFORMING OR ARRANGING FOR ANY REPAIRS.

Communication

Email (Best way to reach Mr. M):

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Phone:

509.548.5277

Website:

IRMS Bands: <https://www.cascadesd.org/Page/845>