



Shelby West Band Handbook 2017 - 2018

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MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Shelby West Middle School Band to display excellence of character and musicianship to our school, our community, and to ourselves.

GOALS

Through rigorous study of music and playing a band instrument, the student will:

- Gain self-esteem through achievement in the arts.
- Grow as an individual in the areas of respect, discipline, and work ethic.
- Develop a sense of pride in hard work.
- Understand that constructive criticism is not something to avoid, but that it is intended to help them grow in an area of study.
- Acquire a love of music as a form of positive self-expression.
- Gain an understanding of the technical and expressive aspects of playing solo and ensemble wind band music.
- Learn how to read and write music notation.
- Gain a basic understanding of how modern musical harmony functions.

STAY IN TOUCH

Band class is unlike many other classes in a student's schedule. Students are either encouraged or required to participate in numerous concerts, competitions, service projects, and field trips. Due to the requirements this class involves outside of the school day I employ several ways to keep parents informed of upcoming events. Please read below:

Remind 101

Receive text reminders through this easy to use app concerning concerts and other events by signing up.

- 6th Grade – text @shelbywes to 81010
- 7th Grade – text @betie to 81010

Social Media

Join our band's groups and stay in contact with Mr. Etienne, receive updates, and view our band's media and music education advocacy resources.

- Facebook Group
 - Shelby West Bands 2017 – 2018
- Instagram
 - Shelbywestbands

Website

Meet our team, view our calendar of events, and view media.

- shelbywestbands.weebly.com
- Written Forms – reminders for concerts and other commitments outside of rehearsal are sent home in the weeks leading up to them. Please ask your students for anything you may need to sign or need to know.

IN THE BAND ROOM

Classroom Rules and Expectations

All rules and regulations are designed to either:

- Ensure the safety of our students.
- Protect the reputation of the organization.
- Allow the organization to meet its goals.

Classroom and Rehearsal Behavior

Students are expected to:

- Treat teachers and other students with respect.
- Enter the band room in a quiet manner and be one time for the start of class.
- Go to the restroom before class begins.
- WALK while in the band room.
- Avoid horseplay. With so many expensive, breakable instruments in the room, this will not be tolerated.
- Assemble their instrument and be in their seat with all classroom materials by the time class begins.
- NOT TALK OR PLAY while an instructor is talking.
- Follow instructions given by Mr. Etienne, a clinician, or any chaperone.
- Treat your instrument with care. Students causing damage to either Shelby West's band equipment or that of another student will be held financially responsible for repairs or replacement of the damaged item.

Consequences for Inappropriate Classroom Behavior

- 1st – Verbal Warning
- 2nd – Ten Minute Time Out in Mr. Etienne's Office/Parent Phone Call/Email
- 3rd – Lunch Detention and Parent Email/Phone Call Describing the Incident
- 4th – Office Referral
- 5th – Dismissal from the Band Program Subject to Administrative Approval

Concert Expectations

Throughout the course of the year, students will perform in or attend various live concerts. Below is a standard set of proper manners to be used when attending a live performance:

- Dress appropriately. For our band students, this includes wearing red dress shirt or top, black dress pants, and black dress shoes. Jeans are not appropriate for our band concerts.
- Arrive early. If one is unable to get to a concert before it starts, wait until the band stops playing to enter the auditorium or concert hall.
- Do not talk during a performance.
- Wait to applaud until the very end of a piece of music. If a piece has multiple parts, or movements, do not clap between them.
- Please support all performing groups by waiting until the very end of the performance to leave the concert.

Materials for Daily Use

These materials are required. Students who come to class ill prepared will see their classroom conduct grade suffer.

- Music Folder for daily use
- Standard of Excellence book 1 or 2
- Pencil
- Instrument in working condition AND the following:
 - Flutes – cleaning rod and swab
 - Clarinets/Saxophones – no less than three reeds, instrument swab.
 - Reeds should be either of the following brands:
Vandoren OR Rico Royal.
 - Trumpets/Baritones – Valve Oil, Tuning Slide Grease
 - Trombones – Slide O Mix, Tuning Slide Grease, Spray Bottle w/ water
 - Percussion – 6th Grade: bell kit, snare pad, and drumsticks
7th Grade: Mallet Bag + one pair of soft mallets, one pair hard mallets, Vic Firth SD1 drum sticks. (a \$25.00 fee will be assessed in order to ensure proper materials are acquired.)

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

With musical instruments, you truly do get what you pay for. Off brand instruments are generally made with cheap materials and play poorly. Only purchase instruments of a reputable brand from a reputable dealer. Below is a list of recommended instrument brands that you can buy with confidence:

| Instrument | Brand/Model | Mouthpiece | Quality |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Flute | Jupiter CEF551 | n/a | |
| | Yamaha 481H | n/a | professional |
| | Yamaha 581H | n/a | professional |
| Oboe | Fox 333 | n/a | student |
| | Yamaha 211 | n/a | student |
| Bassoon | Fox 41 | FoxCVX bocal | student |
| | Fox 222 | FoxCVX bocal | professional |
| Clarinet | Selmer CL300 | Van Doren M13 | student |
| | Yamaha YCL220 | Van Doren M13 | student |
| | Buffett R-13 | Van Doren M13 | professional |
| Alto Sax | Buffett BC8101 | Selmer C* | student |
| | Yamaha YAS6211 | Selmer C* | professional |
| Tenor Sax | Yamaha YTS23 | Selmer C* | student |
| | Yamaha YTS6211 | Selmer C* | professional |
| Trumpet | King 601 | Bach 5C | student |
| | Yamaha YTR2335 | Bach 5C | student |
| French Horn | Holton 179 | Holton Farkas MDC | both |
| | | Schilke 27 | both |
| Trombone | Jupiter 636 | Bach 6.5 AL | student |
| | Yamaha YSL448 G | Bach 6.5 AL | student |
| | Bach 42BO | Bach 6.5 AL | professional |
| Euphonium | Yamaha YEP321 | Bach 6.5 AL | both |
| Tuba | St. Petersburg N202 | Bach 18 | professional |
| Percussion Kit | Ludwig M651 | n/a | student |

Instrument Rentals

There are a limited number of instruments available for students who wish to rent their instrument from the West Middle School band. Large instruments, such as Tenor Saxophones, Bass Clarinets, and Tubas are recommended for rental, as these are very expensive to purchase outright for young students. Rented instruments are available on a first come, first served basis and will be subject to a \$50.00 rental fee and contract.

Woodwind Mouthpieces and Ligatures

Often an instrument upgrade is not required until later in a student's middle school career. A relatively cheap option for immediately improving performance on a Clarinet or Saxophone is the purchase of an upgraded mouthpiece and ligature. This purchase should be made when buying a student's first instrument and is highly recommended. Please speak to the band director for more information.

Music Stores

All materials can be purchased through:

Conrad Music Service
220 N Elm Street
Corydon, IN, 47112
1-800-264-3408
Conradmusicservice.com

Any materials purchased through Conrad's website will be delivered straight to the Shelby West Band Room.

GRADING

Students in grades 6-8 will receive a standards based grade (1 – 4) each grading period that will reflect student participation, learning, and performance. These will be tied to the National Standards for Music – Traditional and Emerging Ensembles Strand.

Standards

MU:Pr6.1.E.8a - Demonstrate attention to technical accuracy and expressive qualities in prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire of music representing diverse cultures and styles.

MU:Pr4.3.E.8a Demonstrate understanding and application of expressive qualities in a varied repertoire of music through prepared and improvised performances.

MU:Cr3.2.E.8a Share personally-developed melodies and rhythmic passages - individually or as an ensemble - that demonstrate understanding of characteristics of music or texts studied in rehearsal.

MU:Cn11.0.E.8a - Demonstrate understanding of relationships between music and other arts, other disciplines, varied contexts, and daily life.

Graded Material

Class participation - Students are expected to bring their instrument, music, supplies and a pencil to class each day and to respectfully participate in the class lesson, speaking and playing when called upon. These responsibilities will be graded weekly and will determine a student's Conduct Grade

Playing tests - Students are expected to prepare the music assignment in home practice and be prepared to play when called upon. Students may retake a playing test before or after school to improve their score. Grading rubrics will be posted to Schoology and sent home with students so they can see what aspects of their playing they can work in to improve their scores.

Written work – Students in band class will be learning the basics of musical terms, rhythm and theory. Students will also be asked to critique their own performances. They will be given written assessments on the subject material covered.

Performances - All performances are required. There are no make-up opportunities for missing a concert. A student who misses a concert will receive a 0% in the grade book unless the absence has been excused **in advance** or was the result of a family emergency. The band functions as an extension of Shelby West Middle School; therefore if an absence is considered excused by the school handbook, the band will excuse it.

Standards Based Grading Scale for 6th and 7th Grade Band

- **Mastery**- The student can independently (unless otherwise noted in the standard) and consistently apply the standard in a way that demonstrates understanding. He/she can transfer the skill to new situations.
- **Approaching Mastery**- The student can sometimes apply the standard in a way that demonstrates understanding. The student may have minor misconceptions or only mastery of part of the standard.
- **Developing** - The student infrequently applies the standard and/or has moderate misconceptions of the skill. They need prompting or support to apply the standard in a way that demonstrates understanding.

- Beginning - The student is just beginning to learn this skill. He/she may also demonstrate major misconceptions in the understanding or use of the skill in the standard. They may be consistently performing below the level of the standard, with a need for teacher support, in most circumstances.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Because our school board is only able to provide a small amount of our budget, band members will be asked to pay the following:

- All band members will be assessed a Fair Share Fee of \$40.00. This fee will be used to pay for additional instructors that will aid in your students' musical education, as well as instructional supplies and music purchases.
- Percussionists will be assessed an additional \$25.00 equipment fee. This will be used to ensure all percussionists are provided with proper drumsticks and mallets.
- Instruments rented from the SWMS Band cost at \$50.00 rental fee for the year.
- All fees are due by Friday, September 2nd.

2017 – 2018 BAND CALENDAR

All events are subject to change. Additional events such as elementary recruiting trips of additional rehearsals may be added at a later date. Families will be informed as quickly as possible should the need to change a date arise.

| Date | Event | Location | Description |
|----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|
| August 5 | 6 th Grade Instrument Boot Camp | SWMS Gym | Required for all 6 th Grade Students |
| November | Morehead State Middle School Band Clinic | Morehead State University | Enrichment Opportunity for 7 th Grade Students |
| December | KMEA District 5 Middle School Honor Band Auditions | Shelby East Middle School | Enrichment Opportunity for 7 th Grade and advanced 6 th Grade Students |
| December 5 | SWMS Winter Concert | Collins High School Auditorium | Required for all Band Students |
| January 5 - 6 | KMEA District 5 Honor Band Weekend | Collins High School | Enrichment opportunity for 7 th Grade and advanced 6 th Grade Students |
| February 22 | 7 th Grade Festival Tune Up Rehearsal (after school) | Shelby West Band Room | Required Rehearsal for 7 th Grade Band Students (guest conductor) |

| | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------|--|
| February 27 | 6 th Grade Festival Tune Up Rehearsal (after school) | Shelby West Band Room | Required Rehearsal for 6 th Grade Band Students (guest conductor) |
| March | Shelby County Pre Festival Concert | Collins High School Auditorium | Required for all Band Students |
| March | KMEA District 5 Solo and Ensemble Assessment | North Oldham High School | Enrichment opportunity for all Band Students |
| March 13, 14, 15 (specific date will come soon) | KMEA District 5 Ensemble Assessment (Field Trip during school) | Collins High School Auditorium | Required for all Band Students |
| April | KMEA District 5 6 th Grade Honor Band Clinic | Info forthcoming | Enrichment opportunity for 6 th Grade Band Students |
| May 15 | SWMS Spring Concert | Collins High School | Required for all Band Students |
| June | University of Louisville Wind Band Institute | U of L School of Music | Enrichment Opportunity. Summer Band Day Camp |

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Private Instruction

There is no better way to improve on your instrument than taking one on one lesson with an older band student or a professional musician. Most students who qualify for All-State Honor Bands are students who take privately. The sooner one begins lessons, the more beneficial they usually are. One excellent option is Gittli Music Studios in Jeffersontown, KY. All teachers at this studio are highly qualified and will yield very positive results.

Gittli Music Studios
 9009 Galene Drive
 Jeffersontown, KY, 40299
 (502)-541-2202

Shelby County Honor Winds

Beginning in the Fall of 2018, 7th and 8th Grade band students from Shelby County East and West Middle School are invited to become members of the Shelby County Honor Winds. This is an auditioned ensemble comprised of the most talented students from both middle schools in the county. This band will be auditioned in the Fall of 2017 and will rehearse once or twice weekly beginning in the Spring of 2018, this band will compete at a band festival in late Spring.

KMEA All District Honor Band

This is an auditioned ensemble comprised of students from middle schools in Bullitt, Spencer, Shelby, Oldham, Anderson, and Henry counties. Students will be given music to audition on in early Fall and auditions are held in late Fall/early Winter. The Honor Band weekend and concert will be held in January. More information will be given as it is made available.

KMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival

The Solo and Ensemble Festival is an opportunity for students to prepare and perform solo literature on their instrument or literature designed for small chamber ensembles like duets, trios, and quintets. Students prepare work outside of class with the aid of the band director or their private teacher and perform for judges. They are given feedback and possible awards for their performances.

KMEA District 5 6th Grade Honor Band

This is an ensemble camp designed especially for 6th grade band students to give them an introduction to the honor band experience. Students are chosen for this band by audition. Their band director based on behavior and musical ability recommends students. This camp is one full day and culminates in a concert for friends and family.

Morehead State Band Clinic

Morehead State University holds a weekend camp each year in which students rehearse with college directors, gain new musical experiences, and finally perform a concert for friends and family at the end of the camp. More information will be distributed as it becomes available.

University of Louisville Wind Band Institute

This is a day camp for area middle school band students. Students will participate in rehearsals, small groups sectionals, and fun activities throughout the week, culminating in a concert on the last day of camp for parents and family. This gives young students an opportunity to work with some of the best band teachers in the state and meet new friends from across the region.

Parent/Student Handbook Agreement Contract**RETURN TO BANDROOM BY MONDAY, AUGUST 9th**

This signature sheet counts as the first homework grade! Please get it in on or before the due date.

The above represents a summary of the responsibilities that form the basis of participation in the Shelby West Middle School Bands. It is essential that each student and parent read this together, understand the information, and realize that by signing this contract they agree to uphold that philosophy and carry out those responsibilities. By signing below, you agree to all financial obligations, commitments outside of the school day, and classroom behavior requirements.

Student signature_____

Parent signature_____

Student's Grade_____

Daytime Phone Number _____ Home _____

Student Email _____

Parent Email #1 _____

Parent Email #2 _____

Internet and Social Media Policy

The Shelby West Middle School Band's website is shelbywestbands.weebly.com. Our Facebook Group's name is [Shelby West Bands 2017 – 2018](#). Our band also has an Instagram page titled [shelbywestbands](#). These sites will contain important band information and photographs and videos of band activities. It is our policy that:

- Photographs in our social media will generally be group shots of a large group of students.
- Students WILL NOT be individually recognized by name at any time on our website or Facebook Group.
- Students' contact information WILL NOT be shared on our website or Facebook Group.

Please indicate whether or not you give permission for us to include your child in photographs and return by **Monday, August 7th**. If you indicate you DO NOT WISH to have your child's picture included in our Facebook or website media, we will exclude any picture in which your child's face is clearly identifiable.

___ I grant permission for my child's photograph to be used on the Shelby West Band website and instagram page.

___ I grant permission for my child's photograph to be used on the Shelby West Band Facebook Group.

___ I DO NOT WISH for my child's photograph to be used on the Shelby West Band website and instagram page.

___ I DO NOT WISH for my child's photograph to be used on the Shelby West Band Facebook Group.

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

SWMS Band Instrument Rental Contract

School owned instruments are provided upon the receipt of completed rental contract and rental fee of \$50.00. Instruments are provided on a first come-first served basis.

Any student desiring to use a school owned instrument should be serious about his or her desire to participate in the Shelby West Middle School band program. Please consider all of the following information before completing this school instrument request.

Parents requesting a school owned instrument for their child need to be supportive of their child's desire to play an instrument and agree to these basic guidelines.

- 1. The student uses the instrument to participate fully in band class instruction.**
- 2. The student should attend all public performances scheduled for their band class.**
- 3. The student should schedule time for home practice each week.**

The Shelby West Middle School Band has invested in the purchase and maintenance of these instruments, so care must be taken to ensure that these instruments remain in good condition. Proper care includes the following guidelines:

- 1. This instrument will be played only by the student listed below.**
- 2. This instrument will be kept clean according to the teacher's instructions.**
- 3. This instrument will be stored in the case in a secure location when not in use.**
- 4. This instrument will be inspected by the instructor on a regular basis to check the cleanliness and condition of the instrument.**
- 5. Any loss or damage to the instrument (other than normal wear) will be the responsibility of the student and guardian.**

Failure to follow these guidelines will result in the loss of the use of this instrument.

STUDENT (please print) _____

PARENT (please print) _____

ADDRESS _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____ EVENING PHONE _____

Do you agree to follow the guidelines for participation and instrument care listed above?

STUDENT AND PARENT SIGNATURE

(This section will be filled out by the band teacher)

Instrument _____ Serial# _____

Condition _____ Accessories _____

Issue date _____ Return date _____

This instrument is property of the Shelby County Schools. If you move or discontinue participation in the SWMS band program, you must return this instrument to the Shelby West band department before your final day in class.

