

Cityside Middle School Band  
7th and 8th Grade Band Handbook  
2024-2025

## **Class Procedures and Expectations**

1. Check the screen and Google Classroom for daily announcements, class objectives, and assignments. Get out all necessary materials (instrument, accessories, music stand, music, PENCIL).
2. Remember to raise your hand if you wish to have the attention of the class.
3. The only things found on your music stand should be: your music, book and pencil. The stands were not designed to hold binders or textbooks (or instruments... or people!).
4. Only percussionists may touch the percussion equipment.
5. You may play the piano after receiving permission from the teacher.
6. Nobody is allowed to touch an instrument that does not belong to them.
7. This class may not be recorded in any way without the prior permission of the instructor. Devices are to be kept under your chair unless we are using them.
8. If you are bringing in money for any reason, please make sure you place it in an envelope (with your name and what the money's for written on the outside).

## **Band Books**

7th - *Essential Elements Book 1* (we'll be moving into book 2 soon)

8th - *Essential Elements Book 2*

## **Grading**

### **1. Classroom participation, class work and practice records - 20% of your grade**

Students will earn five participation points per day. Students who do not have their instrument will receive a zero. Students who are missing music or their band book will get partial credit. Making a habit of forgetting class materials will result in writing a CBC plan. Directors reserve the right to withhold performing opportunities from students who do not regularly participate in class or fulfill class requirements. This would be considered an excused absence with an assignment made available to make up the performance grade.

Students will also receive a grade for at home practicing. Instead of practice records, you will be submitting "check-ins" every week. The check-in will be an assigned portion of a song, an exercise out of the book, or a scale. Students who do not submit their videos will need to make it up during DEAL or class. All check-ins will be for credit. Some selected check-ins will be graded as playing quizzes (and are part of your quiz/test grade category). Check-ins should give you flexibility to practice at your convenience. The ideal is for students to practice 15 minutes a night for 5 days per week and record the check-in on day 4 or 5. Do NOT delete your video until you see your grade appear in the grade book.

## **2. Written and Playing tests - 40% of your grade**

Students have several assessment opportunities throughout each semester. Some examples are playing quizzes or written exams. Some playing tests will be live, but most will be recorded on the chromebooks. We follow the Cityside School Retake Policy for any quiz you would like to retake.

## **3. Performance attendance - 40% of your grade**

Performance attendance is mandatory for every band student. Excused absences from performances include: illness with parent/guardian contact, family emergency with parent/guardian contact, notification of absence at least 2 weeks prior to the performance date by a parent/guardian (family vacation/activity).

*If you are excused from the performance, you will need to do a make-up assignment to receive full credit for the absence. It is your responsibility to communicate to the director and arrange make-up work.*

Unexcused absences from performances include: not attending without parent/guardian contact, illness without parent/guardian contact, family emergency without parent/guardian contact, notification of absence less than 2 weeks prior to the performance, sports obligations (I'm a coach too, so just communicate in advance about conflicts).

*Any unexcused absence cannot be made up and will result in a zero for the performance grade.*

## **Fundraising**

Fundraising is necessary to run school programs like band. Our one fundraiser for the year is held in September/October. More information on our fundraiser will be handed out soon.

## **School Equipment**

The band department is able to loan out large instruments for student use. These instruments are extremely expensive to replace. All students who are issued a school instrument will be asked to pay an annual fee of \$75.00. This fee will cover common repairs that are a result of everyday use; however, the fee does not cover any damage that is the result of misuse or negligence. If you are using an instrument from school, forms and payment requests will be sent out in the fall (you don't need to send in money now).

## **Supplies**

If you need reeds, valve oil or any other supplies for your instrument, Meyer Music delivers to our school once per week. If you order from them over the phone, you can request school delivery and save a trip.

## **Performance Dress Code**

We ask all students to follow the dress code. Parents, thanks for your help in this.

### **7th and 8th Grade Band (same for both years)**

1. Cityside Middle School Band polo shirt – The band polo for 7th and 8th is the same.
2. Black pants...no jeans or sweatpants please!
3. Black shoes (remember you have to march in these) with black socks

### **The following items do not meet the dress code:**

1. Tennis Shoes that are anything but solid black
2. Platform shoes or heels in which it is difficult to walk
3. Zip-off pants, capris, black jeans, cargo pants, sweatpants or decorated pants.

I would be happy to help if you need assistance with purchasing any part of the uniform, but please give me plenty of notice. If you have any uniform items that you would like to donate, send them to Mr. Good.

## **Discipline Procedure**

Students will be warned if their behavior is interrupting class. If the student chooses to be part of the solution, much can be forgiven. If poor choices in behavior become frequent, the student will be sent to the CBC (Chix Building Character) room or the office (parents will be notified at this point). As long as you listen the *first* time and are kind to other students, you will stay on the right track.

## **Volunteer opportunities**

Parents, if you would like to volunteer to help the band with parades, concerts, special events, video taping performances, or chaperoning class activities we ask that you complete the volunteer background check process in Cityside's main office (you may have already done this). Once this is finished, you can contact me if you would like to get involved. Cityside parents have always been very generous with their time, so I thank all of you for your kindness in advance.

## **Communication**

Many important documents will come home via email through Parent Portal. Please make sure that you have a current email address with that system so that you receive band communications. The band website is an additional source of information about upcoming events ([citysideband.org](http://citysideband.org)).

## **BAND CALENDAR for 2024-2025**

Please mark these dates in the family calendar.

### **7th Grade Band**

September 24, 2024 - Band Fundraiser Kick-off

October 1, 2024 - Band Fundraiser Lollipop Draw

Fall Collage Concert (with orchestra and choir) 10/7/24 7:30pm @ DeWitt Auditorium ZEHS

October 8, 2024 - Band Fundraiser Turn in Day

All-State Band Auditions 10/16 or 10/17 @ Creekside MS (Volunteer Group)

WMU Fall Honors Band 11/12/24 @WMU times TBA (Volunteer Group)

Fall Middle School Solo and Ensemble Festival 11/16/24 times TBA (Volunteer Group)

Tuba Christmas 12/2/24 before the Zeeland Christmas Parade (Volunteer Group)

Winter Concert 12/12/24 7:30 PM @ DeWitt Auditorium ZEHS

Middle School Honors Band 2/1/25 (Volunteer Group)

Mid-Winter Concert 2/5/25 @ 7:00 PM at DeWitt Auditorium ZEHS

MSBOA District Band Festival - Late February/Early March - Time and place TBD... most likely during the school day.

Spring Concert 3/25/25 @ 7:30 PM at DeWitt Aud ZEHS

Love and Lean 4/26/25 (Volunteer Event)

Memorial Day Parade - 5/26/25 @ 9:00 AM in downtown Zeeland

### **8th Grade Band**

East vs West Rehearsal 9/13/24 @ Zeeland Stadium 6:00-7:30 pm

East vs West Game 9/20/24 @ Zeeland Stadium (4:45 call time at the H. S. band room, pizza dinner provided). Event is done around 8:30 pm

September 24, 2024 - Band Fundraiser Kick-off

October 1, 2024 - Band Fundraiser Lollipop Draw

Pumpkinfest Parade 10/5/24 3:00 pm Downtown Zeeland

October 8, 2024 - Band Fundraiser Turn in Day

All-State Band Auditions 10/16 or 10/17 @ Creekside MS (Volunteer Group)

Band Trip to hear the Detroit Symphony Orchestra 11/7/24

WMU Fall Honors Band 11/12/24 @WMU times TBA (Volunteer Group)

Fall Middle School Solo and Ensemble Festival 11/16/24 times TBA (Volunteer Group)

Tuba Christmas 12/2/24 before the Zeeland Christmas Parade (Volunteer Group)

Winter Concert 12/12/24 7:30 PM @ DeWitt Auditorium ZEHS

Middle School Honors Band 2/1/25 (Volunteer Group)

Mid-Winter Concert 2/6/25 @ 7:00 PM at DeWitt Auditorium ZEHS

MSBOA District Band Festival - Late February/Early March - Time and place TBD... most likely during the school day.

Spring Concert 3/25/25 @ 7:30 PM at DeWitt Auditorium ZEHS

Tulip Time Parade - 5/8/25 @ 2:00 PM in downtown Holland (Only 8th Grade)

Memorial Day Parade - 5/26/25 @ 9:00 AM in downtown Zeeland

**High School Band Camp info for 8th Graders Summer 2025 7/28-8/1 (pre camp in the evening) & 8/4 - 8/8 (band camp all day)** Please put these dates on your family calendar so that you can avoid vacation conflicts. Our high school band has over 200 kids in it because it is fun and rewarding. Band camp is one thing that makes the high school experience even richer. Having these dates so early can help avoid conflicts later.

### **Final Thoughts**

We are looking forward to starting this year. It is nice to see so many students who enjoy music. Cityside 6th-8th Grade Bands will represent our school before thousands of people this year, including parades and concerts. You are the biggest public representation of our school, and we couldn't ask for a better group of young people to take on this challenge. We know this packet has a lot of rules and regulations, but we want everybody to understand the expectations up front so that there are no surprises later. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We would be happy to help.

Musically yours,

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