

# NORTH VIEW JUNIOR HIGH BAND HANDBOOK 2006-2007

Band Director:

Mr. Terry

Mr. Reisetter (Flute and Saxophone)

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Highlights of this handbook:

Class expectations

Instrument storage

Grading information

Concert dates, expectations, and dress code

Extra musical opportunities: Jazz band

Extra credit

Concert contract & information sheet

Welcome and (for some of you) welcome back to the NVJH Bands. The purpose of the NVJH band program is to provide a good musical experience through the use of rehearsal time, public performances, the study of music history and theory, and extra-curricular ensembles. Each band will have specific goals that they will be working towards each trimester based on the ability level of the group. Remember registration for band is a full year commitment, and the success of the band depends on each member doing his or her part.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band**

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade band contains students only from 7<sup>th</sup> grade. The students will meet in like instrument groups throughout the day. Prior to the concert the groups will combine and rehearse during the school day. 7<sup>th</sup> grade will review basic playing technique, begin technical studies, review elements of rhythm and note reading, and begin to study music history and theory.

### **8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Bands**

8<sup>th</sup> grade and Concert (9<sup>th</sup> grade) Bands meet with all instrument groups present. Both groups will strive to grow in large and small ensemble skills by working on scales, etudes, rhythm studies, chorales, solo's and small ensembles, increasingly difficult literature, music history, and music theory.

### **Concerts**

Concerts are the culminating event of months of hard work and effort by all the students in the band. Students are expected to be ready to warm up 30 minutes before the concert and to stay for the **ENTIRE CONCERT**. Please do not ask them to leave after their performance. Students learn from listening and watching other performances. If your child becomes ill or a family emergency presents itself on the day of the concert please contact the school or Mr. Terry directly and leave a message. Illness or family emergency are the only excused absences from a concert. We rely on 100% participation at each concert so that we may present our music to the best of our ability. **Please mark the following dates on your family calendar.**

## **Dates** – All Concerts at 7pm unless otherwise specified, Band arrives at 6:30

### **November**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Thursday, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> @ NVJH South Gym

9<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Tuesday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> @ Osseo Senior High Auditorium, 7:30pm

### **December**

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Tuesday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> @ NVJH South Gym

9<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Will be announced ASAP @ PCHS Auditorium, 7:30pm

### **February**

8<sup>th</sup> And 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Tuesday, Tuesday Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> @ NVJH South Gym

### **May**

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band and Choir Tuesday May 1<sup>st</sup> @ NVJH South Gym

8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Tuesday May 8<sup>th</sup> @ NVJH South Gym

\*\*\*Other performance opportunities may be available in addition to the current calendar. Students and parents will be notified as soon as the performance is confirmed. Jazz Band dates will be available when the band begins to rehearse.

### **Concert Attire**

Students are expected to dress appropriately and in a uniformed manner for such an important event. Any student that is not dressed appropriately will be asked to find appropriate clothing.

**Girls** – Black skirt (**over the knee**) or pants (NO JEANS, or shorts), a white top (no plunging necklines, spaghetti straps, tank tops, t-shirts, or patterned shirts) and black shoes. The top can be a buttoned down shirt, nice blouse, or sweater.

**Boys** – Black pants (NO JEANS, or shorts), a white top, and black shoes. The top can be a button down shirt, or sweater (no t-shirts or patterned shirts).

### **Grading Policy**

Band is considered an academic class and each student will earn a letter grade based on four components.

1. Practice Records – These are signed by parent/guardians and me each week, and then handed in through out the trimester, they must be handed in on time. *The highest grade a student can receive without one practice chart is a B, or without either practice chart is a C.*

2. Playing exams, Written Work & Participation (this includes: performances, written work, returned forms, and participation in daily classroom activities.)
3. A credit project – this will be something that the student does to show that they truly deserve an A. Examples of some projects include, performing a solo or small ensemble, inside or outside the school day, helping with concert set up, doing a research project on a composer or time period that we are studying. Other options are available, if you have any ideas please see me.
4. Journal Entries – All students will be required to keep a journal. They will write about various things through out the year. The journal will be kept in the band room and will be graded based upon effort in answering the questions posed each week.

### **Practice Records and Journal**

I will give you a practice record form. You must provide a three ring binder with loose leaf paper that will be kept in the band room. Your practice record will be signed by me and your parent/guardian each week. The record is to be signed on Monday each week; however they will be accepted until the first bell on Tuesday morning.

*Points are awarded as follows:*

30 minutes – 1 Point (D)

60 minutes – 2 Points (C)

90 minutes – 3 Points (B)

120 minutes – 4 Points (A)

150+ minutes – 5 Points (1 extra point)

*In some cases the difference between passing and failing is your practice records, don't forget to turn them in!*

### **Written Work**

These assignments will be given during class. Examples of this are: rhythm worksheets, terms and definition worksheets, questions to answer during a video, written tests, journaling activities, research papers, note taking and listening exercises. **If a student is absent during a written assignment it is the responsibility of the student to ask for the assignment and turn it in the next day!** I will not repeatedly remind students of their responsibility to turn in homework.

### **Playing Exams**

Playing exams measure how well the student plays the assigned music. These will occur during the normal class period. They will be taken individually or in duets. Each student will perform in front of the class. Examples of exams are: scale studies, book exercises, or excerpts from the current band literature. If the student is absent during an exam, ***it is the responsibility of the student*** to schedule a time with Mr. Terry to make up the exam. Students can *retake* tests one time during the current trimester so they may attain the score they want. Students will be graded using a rubric so they know exactly what the expectation for the exercise is. If you forget your instrument the day of an exam there will be an automatic 3 point deduction from your score.

### **Participation Grade**

This is a quantitative description of a student's ability to be ready to participate. The expectations are: The student consistently has their instrument, necessary materials, participates in class, and adds to the musical integrity of the ensemble. There are 3 points available every day for participation. If the student does these things no points will be deducted.

### **Extra Credit**

Extra Credit will be offered through out the year. These things may range from a special project such as researching a composer or specific piece of music, to coming in after or before school to help clean up the band room. All extra credit projects must be cleared with Mr. Terry before you begin them. The only project that does not have to be cleared is attending a band, jazz band, orchestra, or choir concert *outside of school*. You must bring in the program from the concert and, complete a two-paragraph summary of the concert and attach it to the program.

### **Extra Help**

Mr. Terry is offering extra help before and after school most days. You must sign up with Mr. Terry the day before you wish to come in. Days and times will be posted on the bulletin board in the back of the band room. During this session you may work on tests, solos, ensembles, band music, outside musical material, ect.

### **Instrument Storage, Identification, and Insurance**

NVJH provides an instrument room with assigned storage slots for each student to keep their instrument at school. Be sure that the instrument is clearly marked with the students' name and grade level. The instrument room is either monitored by a teacher or locked at all times during the day. Over the years there have been a few incidents involving stolen instruments. The teachers, school, and/or district are not responsible for damaged or stolen privately owned or store rented instruments. We strongly recommend checking your home owner's or renter's insurance policy to be sure your child's instrument is covered in the unlikely event that something should happen to it.

### **Equipment Requirements**

ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE THEIR NAME CLEARLY MARKED ON THEIR INSTRUMENT OR MALLET BAG.

- Flutes – 1. Soft Cloth 2. Cleaning Rod 3. Pencil
- Clarinet/Oboe/Saxophone – 1. Three reeds in good playing condition 2. Swab 3. Cork Grease 4. Pencil
- Trumpet/Baritone/Tuba – 1. Valve Oil 2. Soft Cloth 3. Pencil
- French Horn – 1. Rotor Oil 2. Soft Cloth 3. Pencil
- Trombone – 1. Slide Oil/Cream 2. Soft Cloth 3. Pencil
- Percussion – 1. Pair of Wood Snare Sticks 2. Pair of wooden handle bell mallets 3. Pair of wood handle, medium Xylophone mallets 4. General Tympani Mallets 5. Mallet bag to keep all of your belongings (please mark your sticks and mallets) 6. Pencil **You MUST have these things by the second week of school!!!**

You must have these things on a daily basis. Random checks will be made through out the year. These checks will be worth class points. All of these things can be purchased at school from Mr. Terry. You must bring the money to him before or after school. **No sales will be made during school.** If you do not have your materials for class, daily points will be deducted.

If your instrument is not working properly bring it to Mr. Terry *before or after school*, I do not have time during the regular class day to fix instruments. If I cannot fix it you will need to bring it to the repair shop. Here are two possibilities:

Schmitt Music  
2100 Freeway Blvd.  
Brooklyn Center

Johnston's Music Repair  
9720 93<sup>rd</sup> Ave. North  
Osseo

When the instrument is being repaired you must bring a note from home with the estimated return date of the instrument, so that you will be "excused" from playing. Otherwise it will be counted as "not prepared for class" and you will lose all of your points for the day.

### **Books, Music, and Folders**

Books will be purchased for you and handed out when we begin playing. I will tell you which book you will be able to write in and which book you must keep clean. If a book, sheet music, or folder is lost, stolen, or destroyed you will be responsible for the cost of replacing it.

### **Instrument or Equipment Upgrades**

Mr. Terry may suggest instrument or other equipment upgrades. These suggestions may consist of getting a "step-up" instrument, a better quality mouthpiece, different sticks or mallets for percussionists, or using a better quality reed for woodwind players. These changes are not required, but are being made in the best interest of the student. If you are going to purchase any of these things please come and talk to Mr. Terry first. I want to be sure that you get quality equipment so please consult me before purchasing anything. I *may* even be able to steer you in the direction of a store that can get you a better price.

### **Jazz Band**

Jazz band is an extra-curricular ensemble that is available to selected 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. We will explore the true American art form of jazz through learning new music, and learning to play solos. The group will meet mornings *starting* at 7:00 am. The instruments that are normally used in the jazz band are: Alto Sax, Tenor Sax, Bari Sax, Trumpet, Trombone, and at least one drummer/percussionist (you must be able to play drum set) and an auxiliary/keyboard percussion player. We will also need an electric bass player, and a piano/keyboard player. If you play an instrument such as flute, clarinet, or french horn, that is not normally in a jazz band you may talk to the director about other options that may be available. Auditions will be held before the ensemble begins rehearsing for the year.

# PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM

Student Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Instrument information

Type of Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

Brand of Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

Serial Number of Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

(This information will stay in Mr. Terry's possession and will not be shared with other students or parents)

**Parents:** I have read and reviewed this information with my student. I understand the guidelines and policies in this handbook, and acknowledge that they will be held accountable for them. I have also noted the dates on our family calendar and my student will attend all of the required concerts. If you would like to be included on the occasional email updates for your child's band please send me an email requesting to be put on the mailing list.

**Parents:** I would be willing to volunteer my time with the NVJH music program doing things such as (let me know if you have any other ideas):

\_\_\_\_\_ Pass out programs at concerts

\_\_\_\_\_ Help put away equipment and chairs after concerts

\_\_\_\_\_ Help organize the music library, during the school day.

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student:** I have read this handbook and I agree to follow the guidelines and policies, and acknowledge that I will be held accountable for them. I have been notified of the concert dates, and I will attend all of the required events.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature

This form is worth 5 points if it is returned by Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.