***BAND 2 (CONCERT BAND)***

Mr. Christensen

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Welcome to Concert Band! I am very excited to have you in my class. All policies and procedures regarding absences, tardies, grade scale and citizenship are covered in this document. Students are expected to comply with the standards set forth in this document, as well as the School-wide Disclosure Statement. This document, as well as other information regarding the class, can also be found on my website, *baldguymusic.net*.

COURSE PHILOSOPHY: In this class you will gain an increased knowledge of music, especially relating to advanced band literature and playing techniques. In addition to learning to play a musical instrument in class, we will experience a variety of learning activities such as: creating simple musical passages, learning to read rhythmic and melodic notation, and group performance. Students are REQUIRED to have an instrument (including all necessary items related to that instrument) and a method book. In order to be successful, the students will be expected to practice their instrument EVERY DAY!

GRADING: The grade in this class is a reflection of how well a student meets the academic and participation goals/objectives of the class. The student will earn a grade for assessments (formative and summative), assignments (projects, memorization, concert reports) and classroom/performance attendance and participation. The three components will be combined for the class grade.

* Assessments – 80% of the total grade (This component is measured by attendance at mandatory rehearsals and performances, concert etiquette and playing tests.)
* Assignments – 20% of the total grade (This component is measured by active playing during class and performances, rehearsal etiquette, and being prepared with instrument, all music and a pencil every class period)

Concert Band is a performance-based class, which means attendance at school and performances is ESSENTIAL. Because of the group nature of a band, the loss of even one instrument can seriously affect the overall blend and tone quality of the ensemble as a whole. Student progress will be measured every two weeks to track understanding and application of proper playing technique, as well as knowledge of music theory lessons. Students will perform at least 5 times during the year and are expected to attend all scheduled performances and the rehearsals associated with those performances. ANY missed performance will result in a loss of points due to lack of participation. If there is an emergency situation, the student will be given a written alternative project for the first absence only to make up the points for missing the performance. Any missed performances after that, no matter the reason, will result in a zero for that performance.

BEHAVIOR CLAUSE: This is an audition class which means that you have proven your skills as an advanced musician. As a Concert Band member you now represent your classmates, Mr. C, UMS Performing Arts Department and the school. As such you are expected to maintain a high standard of behavior by maintaining the CATS Code and other district, school and classroom policies in your everyday interactions with your fellow students and teachers. If you do not live up to this standard both in and out of class, you may be subject to probation or dismissal from the class

ACADEMIC AND CITIZENSHIP GRADING SCALE

See Union Middle School School-Wide Disclosure

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

* I will show respect for all people and property.
* I will trust my teacher and not be afraid to try new or difficult things.
* I will be prepared with all necessary learning materials at the beginning of class.
* I will strive to always improve myself from the previous class.
* I will remove gum from my mouth upon entering the classroom and not eat or drink ANYTHING except water during the class period.

INSTRUMENT RENTALS: In order to participate in the class, every student needs to have access to their own instrument. Students may bring their already owned instrument from home or rent one from a reputable music store (such as Summerhays Music or Riverton Music). Please be aware that purchasing instruments online and/or from big box stores can be risky due to the unreliability of the instrument components, lack of customer support, or other issues. If you are interested in purchasing an instrument in one of these ways, I would be happy to give you my professional opinion about certain brands and things to watch for, or I can point you in the right direction to find comparative analyses. If none of these options works for you, Union Middle School has a VERY limited assortment of band instruments that are available to rent for $80 a year. If you choose to rent from Union, please fill out and return a signed CSD instrument rental agreement (a paper copy is attached or you can fill out an electronic copy on my website) and pay the rental fee of $80 to the main office. Your student will not be allowed to be take home their school-rented instrument until the completed rental agreement AND proof of payment is returned to me. Instrument rentals will begin on **MONDAY, AUGUST 26th.** Instruments will be due and used in class starting the first class period after Labor Day. If an instrument is not available to use in class by the end of that week, the student will be removed from the course.

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE: As one of the requirements for this class is to participate in all Concert Band performances, students are asked to wear appropriate concert attire as follows: CLEAN black or dark-colored dress pants or slacks with a nice CLEAN white button-up shirt and a tie. CLEAN black or dark-colored skirts (which must be knee length or longer) with a black or white shirt or a plain black dress would also be acceptable. Shoes should be black or dark-colored. No sandals or flip-flops.

COMMUNICATION: I will be sending class information regarding rehearsals, concerts, playing tests etc. primarily through the email address listed on Skyward and the Remind app, in addition to handouts sent home with your students. Please make sure your email address is correct on Skyward so that you do not miss these announcements. Information about the Remind app can be found on the Concert Band page of my website. If you need to communicate with me, email is the best way to do so. I will try to respond within 24 hours during the school week and within 48 hours over the weekend. You are always welcome to come and observe the class or set up a face to face meeting if you feel it necessary.

MOVIES IN CLASS: On occasion, it may be necessary to show videos that relate to the music curriculum and provide a different educational experience, reinforce class lessons, or demonstrate application of learned skills. This can occur on a test day to allow more individual instruction time for those who are struggling, or simply to remove some of the anxiety that comes from performing in front of others. Also, most of the time a video will be shown when there is a substitute due to my absence. While the majority of these videos are G-rated, some of the musicals we will be watching are PG-rated. The movies will ALWAYS be accompanied by a worksheet or study guide. If you are willing for your student to participate in these activities, please sign below and return it to me as soon as possible. If you do not wish to give your student permission to view these activities, please indicate below and an alternative activity will be given to your student.

Concert Band Information Sheet

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the information contained in the Concert Band Information Sheet regarding instrument acquisition, grading, citizenship, classroom expectations, behavior clause, performances, dress code, communication and movies.

Class Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (Please Print)

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Please initial below:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby give my permission for my student to participate in activities in the Concert Band class involving the showing of PG-rated movies.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I DO NOT give my permission for my student to participate in activities in the Concert Band class involving the showing of PG-rated movies and I request that an alternative activity be provided of equal importance and value.