
Deane Bozeman School

Band Program

Middle School Band Manual

Director of Bands- Brandon Poiroux

Assistant Band Director - Jeremy Johnson

BELIEF STATEMENT

I am responsible for my behavior and the results of that behavior. I am responsible for what I become in life, and life does not accept excuses. I will always strive to be the best version of me that I can because I know that my Band Family is counting on me. I am an integral part of the Deane Bozeman School Band Program.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

To participate in band activities at Deane Bozeman School, the student must follow the following guidelines:

1. Be a student at Deane Bozeman School or have a special request to the Band Director.
2. Maintain a cumulative GPA of a 2.0 or higher in all academic and elective classes.

COMMITMENT TO PROGRAM

This program runs for the full year and are expected to participate in all required events throughout the year. Students must also be enrolled in the appropriate class. Exceptions may be considered by the Band Director.

BASIC GUIDELINES

- Students must abide by the Bay District Schools Code of Student Conduct, Deane Bozeman School Student Rules, and the Deane Bozeman Band Manual.
- A disciplinary infraction that results in Out of School Suspension or repeated disciplinary infractions may result in subsequent **suspension** from Band activities or **removal** from the program.
- Any instrument or equipment not belonging to or assigned to you is strictly **off limits**.
- **No** gum, food, or drink other than bottled water is allowed in the band room.
- For security reasons, the band room is **off limits** to non-band students.
- **Dishonesty** (this can be lying, cheating, stealing, or anything else dishonest) can result in dismissal from the program.
- Be supportive of each other and be positive to one another. **Every** individual is important in this Band. Without you, there is no Band! Have **FUN!!**
- Attend **ALL** rehearsals and performances.
- Be **prepared** for rehearsals and performances.
- Be **on time** for all classes, rehearsals, and performances.
- Keep instrument and equipment in **performance condition** and in **proper location**.
- **Practice regularly** at home (15-30 minutes per day) and study privately if possible.
- Keep **YOUR** band facility neat, clean and free of litter.
- Keep up with and be responsible for the music and equipment issued to him or her.

Grade 5-8 Bands

5TH GRADE BAND & BEGINNING BAND

Membership is open to all 5th grade and middle school students who wish to extend their knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of music by learning how to play a wind or percussion instrument. Attention is focused on introductory music fundamentals, technical achievement, and acquisition of performance and rehearsal skills through exposure to a variety of literature. These bands will perform 2-3 Mini-Concerts throughout the year as well as performing at the annual Christmas and Spring Concerts. They will also have the opportunity to perform as a part of the Bay County Beginning Band Clinic. **After school rehearsals may be required before each concert.**

INTERMEDIATE BAND

Membership is open to all middle school students who have successfully completed one year in Beginning Band the previous year. The course will be a continuation of the technical training started in the beginning band class. Emphasis is placed on the acquisition of skills necessary to meet high standards of music performance. This band will perform regularly throughout the year, including: “SORT” Middle School Night, FBA Music Performance Assessment, Recruitment Concerts, as well as performing at the annual Christmas and Spring Concerts. They will also have the opportunity to participate in various Honor Bands. **After school rehearsals are required before each concert.**

CONCERT BAND

Membership is open to all middle school students who have successfully completed two years in the DBS Band. The course will be a continuation of the technical training started in the beginning band class. Emphasis is placed on the acquisition of skills necessary to meet high standards of music performance. This band will perform regularly throughout the year, including: “SORT” Middle School Night, FBA Music Performance Assessment, Recruitment Concerts, as well as performing at the annual Christmas and Spring Concerts. They will also have the opportunity to participate in various Honor Bands. **After school rehearsals are required before each concert.**

GRADING SYSTEM

Rehearsal Preparation & Performance 20%: If student is prepared for rehearsal, on time, participates, and follows band room rules and school policy, the student will receive all available points. Failure to be prepared, tardiness, and/or inappropriate behavior will result in a loss of Rehearsal Preparation & Performance Points.

Individual Performance/Written Assessments 50%: These assessments will be either performance-based or written, and are to be completed via the student's Charms Account Recording Studio, or in person by appointment with Mr. Poiroux or Mr. Johnson. Students will be given ample prior notice to prepare before any assessment.

Group Performances 30%: All performances are **mandatory** and will be assessed. The director will provide the students with performance dates with ample time to make adjustments in schedule. Performance attendance will be a heavily graded aspect of the class. Additionally, the band is a group activity where students must rehearse and perform in a collaborative fashion: One band, one sound! *Unlike a written test, performances cannot be reproduced. If a performance is missed that is unexcused, a 3 page essay will be assigned to recover the grade.*

ATTENDANCE

Your attendance during rehearsals and performances has a direct effect on your grade. Band is a participation/performance based course. **Attendance is mandatory to all rehearsals and performances unless otherwise noted.** A list of scheduled concert dates throughout the school year can be found on the band website www.dbsband.com. **Please be aware of these concert dates, and plan accordingly.**

Excused Absences Include

- Extreme personal illness *with Doctor's Note*
- Family Health emergencies *verified by family*
- *Approved* Academic conflicts
- Required Religious observances (*with notice*)
- Extra-Curricular School conflicts *approved by director in advance.*

REQUIRED MATERIALS

The following materials are to be carried with the student's instrument at all times:

Flute: tuning slide grease

Clarinet/Bass Clarinet: cork grease, multiple good quality reeds (2.5 or 3 strength Vandoren brand reeds are recommended)

Oboe, Bassoon: cork grease, multiple good quality reeds (medium strength Jones brand recommended)

Alto/Tenor/Bari Saxophone: cork grease, multiple good quality reeds (2.5 or 3 strength Vandoren brand reeds are recommended)

Trumpet, French Horn, Baritone, Tuba: Blue Juice valve oil, tuning slide grease

Trombone: slide cream and water spray bottle, Blue Juice oil (if using F-Attachment horn), tuning slide grease

Percussion: Percussion Kit (Snare Drum, Bells, Mallets, Sticks)

****All students will need the following each day****

-“Measures of Success” Book 1 for specific instrument (**Beginner Band Only**)

- **Pencil (no pen) & Light-Colored Highlighter**

- **3-Ring binder w/ several sheet protectors (Intermediate & Concert Bands Only)**

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

All middle school band students will be required to wear their current year band shirt and long pants to each performance **EXCEPT** for Concert Band MPA. At that event, the Intermediate & Concert Bands will be required to wear the official **Band Polo (provided), Khaki Pants, and Dress Shoes.**

MUSIC

- Each student will have his/her own copy of the music. Names will be neatly printed in the upper right corner of each piece of music, measures will be numbered, and all marks are to be carefully made in pencil.
- Replacement copies of music will cost 25 cents per page.

5TH GRADE & MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND FEES

All middle school band students will be required to pay a **\$30 Band Fee** which will include their method book for the year, the current year Band T-Shirt, and cover the costs of paper, ink, travel, etc. for general band needs. All fees can be paid via fundraisers throughout the year, and **DO NOT** let financial need prevent you from participating. We will find a way to get the fees paid!

INSTRUMENTS

Instrument Placement (5th Grade/Beginning Band)

During the first or second week of school the students will have an opportunity to try out each instrument offered in the beginning band class. The students are encouraged to have a preference, but placement on a certain instrument depends on the needs of the ensemble and is left to the discretion of the director.

School-Owned Instruments

Some instruments (French Horn/Baritone/Tuba) may be provided by the school to avoid large instrument purchases. These instruments will be checked-out to the student at the beginning of the year through the director.

Repair

If it becomes necessary to have a student's instrument repaired, the band director must receive a note from the parent. Students without their instrument in class, or proof of repair, will lose partial grade points and be given a written assignment.

Storage

When students arrive at school in the morning, they may bring their instruments to the band room and place them in the storage racks. Before boarding the bus at the end of the day, students may return to the band room to pick up their instruments. The school provides the storage racks as a convenience to students, but we are not responsible for instruments left there during the day or overnight. Please mark the student's name on instrument cases and personal equipment, lock the case if possible, lock the locker, and insure your instrument through your homeowner's or renter's insurance for optimal security. Keep a record of the make, model, and serial number of your instrument.

****The school is not responsible for instruments/items not in a locked locker****

(Please detach this page and return with student)

STUDENT HANDBOOK AGREEMENT

I have read the DBS Band Manual, and understand the expectations and guidelines of the class. I am also aware of the scheduled concert and rehearsal dates throughout the school year.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent /Guardian Signature: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____