

West Wing Band Handbook

2023-2024

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Website: <https://www.dvusd.org/Domain/10053>

Band Mission Statement:

The West Wing School Band Program strives to impact our peers and community through high levels of music performance and academic achievement. It is our goal to share not only music, but also the friendship and creativity that comes along with making music.

Band Class Goal:

All students will show mastery of instrumental technique to be applied through performance of grade appropriate music at a high level of achievement. All students will show mastery of rehearsal techniques.

Instrumental Ensembles

Middle School Band

This performing group focuses on reaching the Band I (7th Grade) and Band II (8th Grade) wind instrument standards set by DVUSD, depending on the age of the performer. They perform in at least 3 concerts per year, a Spring Festival, District Assessments, Assemblies, and select students will perform at District Honor Band, All-State, and Solo & Ensemble.

Middle School Percussion Ensemble

This performing group also focuses on the Band I & Band II Instrumental standards, but specifies in percussion-based techniques. They perform in at least 3 concerts per year, possible festivals such as Solo & Ensemble and members may have the opportunity to participate in District Honor Band and Solo & Ensemble.

6th Grade Band

This performing group aims to achieve the Intermediate Band Standards set forth by DVUSD. They perform in 2 concerts a year and may participate in a Spring Festival. Select students will perform at District Honor Band, All-State and Solo & Ensemble.

5th Grade Band

This performing group aims to achieve the Beginning Band Standards set forth by DVUSD. They perform in 2 concerts a year.

Materials Needed

All Members

Pencil

1-inch 3-ring Binder

At least 15 Sheet Protectors

Method Book (Book 1: 5th & 6th Grade; Book 2: 7th & 8th Grade)

Brass

- Instrument and Mouthpiece
- Valve Oil or Trombotine + Spray Bottle
- Instrument Snake + Mouthpiece Brush

Woodwinds

- Instrument
- Vandoren Reeds
2.5 for 5th grade,
3/ 3.5 for 6th-8th grade
- Mouthpiece Patch
- Cork Grease
- Silk Swab
- Mouthpiece Cap

Percussion

- Vic Firth SD1 General Snare Sticks
- Innovative Percussion F10 Rubber Mallets
- Promark JH3 Timpani Mallets*
- Stick Bag
- Personal Snare/Bell Kit

*7th and 8th Grade Only

BAND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

1. Students who are enrolled in band at the start of the school year will be expected to commit to the entire school year. This ensures students develop a sense of membership to the band and cooperation with their peers. There will be a period within the first two weeks of school during which they can choose to have their schedule changed. This process will include parent communic

2. Should students or parents communicate with the office about a schedule change, they will be directed to the band instructor to discuss their concern

- b. throwing away at least one piece of trash, dusting a surface, wiping down the sink, tidying a shelf, stacking instruments, etc.
- c. Students will then set up chairs (and if necessary, stands) for the next class before leaving.
 - i. If being put away, chairs will be safely stacked, stands will go into the rack orderly, and all percussion equipment will be put away in its labeled place.

ATTENDANCE

1. - Daily expectations are explained above under Rehearsal Etiquette. Students who consistently tardy/unprepared for class will have their daily grade lowered per the rehearsal technique rubric.

All students are required to attend each event/performance listed on the concerts & events calendar. Students who do not attend without a health or emergency related reason from a parent/guardian will be expected to complete an alternative performance/assignment to receive points for the event. Call times for events will be communicated at least two weeks prior to the event.

These events will not be graded and students involved in these events will be scheduled through registration forms and performance attire expectations may vary per event. Such events include participation in All-State, Honor Band and Solo & Ensemble as well as after-school pep band performances.

Permission Slips will be issued for these events. Some will be graded, such as our fall and spring district assessments. This also includes our in-state and out-of-state trips such as area festivals and Disneyland.

UNIFORMS

1. All students will acquire an all-black polo shirt with the West Wing Band Logo. If you have one from previous years, you do not need a new polo.
2. Gentlemen: polo, black dress pants, black belt, black dress shoes, and black socks
3. Ladies: polo, black dress pants/skirt, and black dress shoes (wedge, sandal, flat)
4. Not Allowed: Leggings, jeans, running shoes, skate shoes, t-shirts, dresses, high heels
5. Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the lowering of grade and removal from performance.

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***The director reserves the right to consider any playing test as a placement audition and therefore grounds for section reassignment.

**** Challenges will only take place for 7th and 8th grade band students, and may become allowed in the 2nd semester for 6th grade students.**

If a student wishes to challenge someone within their section, some guidelines apply:

- an individual may challenge each other for chair placement or for playing part.
- Chair placement: students will perform scales, rudiments, and other fundamental exercises. The winner will gain the higher chair.
- Playing Part: students may challenge each other in order to play solos or selected passages in music. Percussionists may challenge each other for the right to perform parts in concert band assignments or performances- this may include entire parts, solos and instances where all parts are covered and therefore multiple players may play.

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West Wing Band Handbook Signature Sheet

****Please return completed form to class or virtually through Canvas (See instructions)**