

C. Milton Wright  
High School

Band Department

# 2018-2019 Student Handbook



**Band Website**

**[www.cmiltonwrightmusic.com](http://www.cmiltonwrightmusic.com)**

Dr. Joel Frisch - [Joel.Frisch@hcps.org](mailto:Joel.Frisch@hcps.org)  
Mr. George Ferenz - [George.Ferenz@hcps.org](mailto:George.Ferenz@hcps.org)  
Band Parent Organization - [CMWBPO@gmail.com](mailto:CMWBPO@gmail.com)

# Band Grades 9-12

## Course Description

This course enhances instrumental skills and knowledge of music fundamentals by rehearsing and performing a wide variety of music. The student gains proficiency in techniques of ensemble and solo performance. This is a performing organization requiring out-of-school time including evenings and weekends. Students may take this course more than one time.

## Band Outcomes

In all band classes students will:

1. Use listening skills to adjust blend and balance.
2. Demonstrate the ability to play in tune with appropriate tone quality.
3. Interpret music according to the historical style or culture of the composition.
4. Demonstrate the ability to read musical notation accurately.
5. Demonstrate proper instrumental technique.
6. Demonstrate proper rehearsal and performance expectations.
7. Perform in a variety of settings.
8. Demonstrate the ability to critique music with understanding.

## Assessment

The following forms of assessment will be used during the course of the school year:

1. **Practice (20%)** – ensemble preparation, worksheets, homework (Summative)
2. **Process (30%)** – required outside of class rehearsals, minor playing assessments, written quizzes (Summative/Formative)
3. **Product (50%)** – performances, major playing assessments, written tests (Formative)

## Grading Outline

The student's grade will be derived from the following areas:

1. **Rehearsal Preparation/Participation** – Students are expected to exhibit the following work habits:
  - a. Active participation and preparation for class. (regular at home practice is necessary, instrument, music, drill, pencil, reeds, valve oil, etc.) Assessment of preparation will be at the teacher's discretion.
  - b. Cooperation
  - c. Punctuality and attendance
2. **Progress/Achievement/Performances** – A student's developing technical facility will be assessed by regular playing tests and quizzes. Most tests will be performance based but some will be written. Students will demonstrate their achievement of musical objectives in a live performance setting. (See calendar for performance dates.)
3. **Homework** – Students will often have forms that require a parent signature.

## Textbooks

All Warm-Up Books and Music are provided by the school.

1. Foundations for Superior Performance, Richard Williams & Jeff King
2. Treasury of Scales, Leonard B. Smith
3. 66 Festive and Famous Chorales For Band, arr. Frank Erickson
4. A Variety of Music

## Required Supplies

1. Instrument, in working condition
2. Mouthpiece, reeds, valve oil, mutes for brass instruments, when necessary, etc.
3. Band Music
4. PENCIL!!!!
5. **Tennis Shoes**, Drill Books, Flip Folder, Lyres for Marching Season
6. Percussion only – see Percussion Required Materials sheet

## Introduction

I am glad that you are a part of the C. Milton Wright Music Department and I look forward to a successful and rewarding year. Being a member of a musical organization is a wonderful experience, one that you will remember for the rest of your life. The C. Milton Wright Music Department has the potential to achieve musical excellence if all the members of each performing group are committed towards this unified goal. As we begin the year, it is appropriate to review the responsibilities of membership in our various ensembles. Please read the following and keep it to know what is expected of you and all members of our groups.

## Attendance Policy

Band is a performance oriented class. Participation in performances is an essential part of the learning process. It is a primary way in which band directors evaluate students. Band students represent C. Milton Wright High School in a meaningful and visible way during performances. The absence of any band student from a performance will have an impact on the reputation of the school and on the success of the entire band.

### **The following procedures and policies apply to the participation of band students in performances.**

1. At the beginning of school, the band director will distribute a list of performances for the upcoming school year at which attendance of band students is required. (Percussionists MUST attend Band concerts and Percussion concerts)
2. Band students are expected to attend all scheduled performances and rehearsals.
3. If a band student misses a rehearsal or performance without a valid excuse, as determined by the band director, the student will receive a zero for that performance, as they will be unable to meet the objectives of that particular performance.
4. If a band student misses a performance, no penalty will be imposed if the reason for the absence meets one of the following criteria...
  - The student is ill
  - Family Emergency
5. Absences from performances for which the grade penalty will be imposed include, but are not limited to the following:
  - Work
  - Concerts/Sporting Events
  - School work – The rotating schedule provides you with ample time to complete your homework. Please be responsible and plan ahead.
6. Early notification of a conflict and potential absence from a performance is essential. The student and parent must notify the band director of a potential absence via the CMW Band Absence Request Form. Please submit a form at least two weeks in advance of a conflict.
7. When a student's absence results from an unexpected event (such as a sudden illness, or family emergency), every effort should be made to contact the band director before the performance. The director recognizes that on rare occasions this will not be possible.
8. When a student notifies the band director that he/she will be absent from a performance, the director will decide if a penalty will be imposed and will share this decision with the student.

## Additional Opportunities

Throughout the course of the school year, you will have the opportunity to improve your musical skills and ability by participating in a variety of voluntary musical activities and ensembles. I highly suggest that you attempt to take part in as many of these activities as possible.

- Pep Band
- Color Guard
- Small Ensembles
- All County Band and Orchestra
- All State Band and/or Orchestra
- Solo and Ensemble Festival
- Summer Parades
- Music Competition Trips
- Tri-M Music Honor Society
- After School Percussion Ensemble
- Jazz Club

## Class Responsibilities and Procedures

1. Rehearsal time is limited and important. Everyone needs to be present, on time, and prepared to work. Attendance and active positive participation are a part of your grade.
2. Gum chewing is not allowed in the music rooms. As you enter the room you must discard any gum that you may be chewing into the appropriate trash receptacle. Food and drinks, other than water are not permitted in any of the music rooms. Please help to keep our rooms clean and organized.
3. Have your music and all equipment needed for the rehearsal (pencil, mutes, oil, extra reeds, spray bottles, etc.) with you as you take your seat.
4. When the director steps in front of the classroom or on the podium, all playing and talking should stop immediately so we may proceed with rehearsal as posted on the whiteboard. Rehearsal etiquette includes stopping when the director stops conducting or cuts off the group. Listen for directions, comments, or corrections. Always mark your music with pencil. When the director's hands are raised you should be ready to begin.
5. Take good care of all equipment, whether it is yours or the schools. Please do not lean on the music stands as this bends and loosens them. All drum sticks and small auxiliary instruments must be returned to the percussion cabinet/closet in their specified location. Misuse or damage of school instruments or percussion equipment will result in an appropriate replacement fee and referral to the main office.
6. YOU are responsible for caring for your music. A copy of all music will be distributed to each student in the class. In most cases, music will be placed in your folder slot each day. Lost or damaged music will be replaced by the student for a price ranging from \$1.00 to \$5.00, depending on the publishing company. It is your responsibility to take care of your music.
7. It is recommended that each student purchases a box or reeds or a larger quantity to last for a longer period of time. You should always have at least 3 to 4 reeds in rotation, just in case one breaks. (\*\*I highly recommend Vandoren, Mitchell Lurie, and LaVoz reeds.)
8. Each student must put their name, address, telephone number and school on a tag outside of their case for identification purposes. If this tag is lost or destroyed at any time, you must see your director to get a replacement tag.

**Individual and home practice:** Practicing at home is your homework for music class. You need to practice your assigned music enough to be able to perform it well. Aim to perform it perfectly. I suggest at least 30 minutes of individual practice at home every two days. Practice time should be geared toward improvement in tone, intonation, rhythm, technique, and musicality. You will have frequent opportunities to show your improvement and musical growth through playing your music individually, in sectionals, or in class.

## Formal Concert Attire/Dress

### **Marching Season (Grades 9-12)**

Uniforms will be lent to students to wear in C. Milton Wright High School Marching Band performances. Students are expected to wear **black gloves, black socks, and blue band shirts** under their uniform. It is understood that the student accepts responsibility for care of the uniform. If damage to the uniform is caused by misuse or negligence, the student is financially responsible for repair or replacement of the uniform.

### **Concert Season (Grades 9-12)**

Students will be expected to wear professional concert attire for all concert season performances. Flip-flops and sandals are not permitted.

**Girls:** must wear concert black and black dress shoes. This could include either a...

- Long black dress
- Black shirt/blouse, **sleeve must reach to the elbow**
- Long black skirt
- Loose fitting black dress pants, not jeans

Jeans, Corduroys,  
Yoga Pants, and Leggings  
are **NOT** permitted

**Boys:** must wear black dress pants, black socks, black dress shoes, and a long sleeve **BLACK** dress shirt (a long blue tie will be provided by the BPO)

**BLACK from HEAD to TOE!!!!**

Please complete the following form and return to the band mailbox  
by Tuesday 9/11/18 or Wednesday 9/12/18 for a 25pt. homework grade.

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Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_

Student e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I accept the rules and regulations presented in this band handbook. I understand that taking part in a band class will require mandatory after school and evening rehearsals and performances that directly impact my grade. I will complete an absence request form at least two weeks prior to a known absence.

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

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_