

City Honors School 5th-8th Grade Band Syllabus/Handbook

2009-2010

Donna Kerr, Director of Bands

(716) 816-3350 CHS @ #56

dkerr@buffaloschools.org

<http://www.buffaloschools.org/webpages/dkerr>

Philosophy: The City Honors 5th-8th Grade Band program's primary objective is to MAKE MUSIC! Students learn to make music while learning its importance in every person's education. Students learn teamwork skills and life-long music appreciation that will be used in future opportunities.

Expectations: A student will be successful if he/she can meet the following expectations:

1. Make every effort to practice and work to a student's ability for the ENTIRE year.
2. Make every effort to work cooperatively with classmates and teacher.
3. Be responsible for your own equipment and school issued equipment.
4. If you don't understand something, please ask at lessons or when teacher permits.
5. Follows school policy and agreements.

Classroom Rules:

1. If it's not yours, leave it alone.
2. If you use it, take care of it.
3. Cooperate at all times.
4. Be on time, be prepared, and be responsible.
5. Follow all existing school rules and agreements.

Grading:

1. Performance 25%: Attendance at all required concerts.
2. Lessons 25%: Attendance to all lessons; be at all of your lessons.
3. Class Participation 25%: Making an honest effort in class and following the rules .
4. Complete Musicianship 25%: Small written and playing assignments that are given.

Performance Expectations:

Students should arrive at posted time before a scheduled performance to check in.

Students should make every effort to attend a concert. If a student misses an event, a **written** parent/guardian note must be presented to the teacher **no later** than 1 week after the performance date to be excused and **the grade not altered**.

5th-8th Grade Uniform for Performances:

Nice white shirt or blouse

Dress pants or skirt (for girls)

Nice Dress Shoes

Lesson Expectations:

Students are expected to attend all lessons that are scheduled. If a student is absent from school, the students need to make it up. Students will have 1 week after a missed lesson to schedule a make-up; if this is not done, the lesson grade will remain a zero. Students are expected to practice assigned exercises and pieces.

Discipline Policy:

Minor rule infractions will be documented. The following is the chain of command for discipline issues:

1. Teacher will pull student aside and give a warning.
2. Teacher will contact parent about behavior and student will be assigned consequence.
3. A conference will be held with student, parent, teacher and principal.

Responsibilities of Students:

All students should have and take care of the following things with them when they come to class: a pencil, assigned music, lesson book, folder, instrument, and assignment notebook. Students will receive a separate list in their folders of extra supplies that are specific to their instrument.

Band Fees:

There is a \$25 Band Fee for ALL band members. This fee includes an instrument rental, book, supplies such as reeds, oil, drumsticks, pads and cleaners and use of music equipment, etc.

The band fee is payable by cash, check or money order made out to: City Honors Band. There will be a \$35 fee for any returned checks.

If your child is participating in the Instrumental program, this fee is due when they are issued an instrument or by October 1, 2009 at the latest.

I look forward to working with your children this year. For more information, please feel free to email at dkerr@buffaloschools.org . The City Honors Band also has a website that is used frequently to post information and updates. Please check this site out at <http://www.buffaloschools.org/webpages/dkerr> .

Thank you,

Donna Kerr
Band Director