

# Heritage Grove Huskie Band Handbook

2019-2020



Darcie M. Nein - Director

## **Class Information**

Welcome to the Heritage Grove Middle School Instrumental Music Program! It is our sincerest hope that this year will be a successful and productive one filled with opportunities for musical and personal growth. In order for us to learn, rehearse, and perform together there are some guidelines you need to know and share with your parents.

*“Music, to me, was-is representative of everything I like most in life. It’s beautiful and fun, but very rigorous. If you wanted to be good, you had to work like crazy. It was a real relationship between effort and reward. My musical life experiences were just as important to me, in terms of forming my development, as my political experiences or my academic life.”*

*President Bill Clinton*

## **Classroom Expectations**

1. Be Respectful
2. Be Prepared
3. Be Open To New ideas and experiences
4. No food or Drink (Especially Gum) in the Band room
5. Give your best effort every day!

## **Grading**

20% Practicing

20% Playing Quizzes and Tests

20% Concert Performance, Etiquette, And Reflection

40% rehearsals, Preparation, Instrument/supply  
maintenance

## Music Education Goals

Based on the National Standards for Music Education, which are written in italics, basic musical standards and objectives have been determined. Students will:

1. *Play alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.* Using correct instrumental technique and forms of expression, students will perform a wide variety of band literature.
2. *Reading and notating music, and Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines.* Music literacy will develop as musical theory and sight-singing techniques continue to grow. Students will write basic compositions, improvise, and further music theory knowledge.
3. *Listening to, analyzing, describing music.* Students will develop as critical listeners, and audiation skills will aid in musicianship skills. Listening to musical performances allows students to evaluate themselves and other performers while growing musically.
4. *Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts, and Understanding music in relation to history and culture.* Students will study composers, different musical periods, music of other cultures and how music applies to other art forms.
5. *Participate in a wide variety of musical experiences, creating aesthetic experiences.*

Band is a strong group of individuals who work together to accomplish musical goals: **band is a team.** During band, students discover the joy of playing and the wonder of music. They find appreciation in the music in their everyday lives, and they experience the beauty and expression of making music with their instrument. Music encourages creativity, independent thinking, and expression.

## Ensembles & Additional Opportunities

**Grade Level Bands** – All students in band are assigned to a grade level band according to what grade they are in rather than experience level.

**Wind Ensemble** – WE is an auditioned group at Heritage Grove open to 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders only. WE meets twice per week at 7:00am beginning in September.

**Green Machine Marching Band** – 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders are able to participate in the Green Machine Marching band which meets at Ira Jones and participates in the Plainfield Homecoming Parade.

**Jazz Band** – Jazz Band is an auditioned group open to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders only and meets AFTER school once a week beginning in November.

Instrumentation is as follows

4 Alto Saxophones	4 Tenor Saxophones	2 Bari Saxophones
8 Trumpets	8 Trombones/Bt	1 Piano 1 Keyboard bass
1 Drumset player	1 Auxiliary perc/vibes	1 Guitar

**ILMEA- 8th Grade ONLY** (private lesson study REQUIRED) 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students can audition for a district band festival. If they are selected, they participate in a day long festival with a concert.

**Private Lessons** – If your student is interested in playing in one of the more advanced ensembles or auditioning for ILMEA, private study should be part of the band experience. Unfortunately, in Plainfield, we do not have the opportunity to have small group lessons or individual lessons during the school day. We also only meet for a short time every other day. In comparison, other school districts surrounding us have band every day, often begin in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and give students a small group lesson each week. We have very successful musicians here at Heritage Grove. Those who stay the most competitive participate in private study.

Here are a few places where lessons are taught:

PM Music – Located next to Chic-fil-a near Fox Valley Mall

Music & Arts – Located on 75<sup>th</sup> and 59 near Hobby Lobby

Quinlan & Fabish – Located in Montgomery

## Concerts & Commitments 2019-2020

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Level Band

Wednesday November 13<sup>th</sup>

Concert 7pm in the HGMS Gym

Wednesday February 12<sup>th</sup>

Concert 7pm in the HGMS Gym

Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup>

Concert 6pm in the HGMS Gym

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Level Band

Wednesday November 20<sup>th</sup>

Concert 6pm in the HGMS Gym

Thursday February 13<sup>th</sup>

Concert 6pm in the HGMS Gym

Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup>

Concert 7:30pm in the HGMS Gym

Thursday May 21<sup>st</sup>

Performance at 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony  
PNHS Gym

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Level Band

Wednesday October 30<sup>th</sup>

Concert 7pm in the PNHS Auditorium

Wednesday November 20<sup>th</sup>

Concert 7:30pm in the HGMS Gym

Thursday February 13<sup>th</sup>

Concert 7:30pm in the HGMS Gym

Wednesday May 6<sup>th</sup>

Concert 7pm in the HGMS Gym

**Additional groups will be given a schedule as students pick up audition packets. Dates should be cross referenced to make sure the commitment can be made prior to auditioning for the group. Please do not try out for a group if you cannot make the performances scheduled for that group.**

# Heritage Grove Band Contract

As a valued member of the Heritage Grove Band Program I understand that any performance given by my band will be less than its best if I do not attend. To be a part of the band, my attendance at ALL concerts is MANDATORY. The concerts are exams for this academic class and are graded. It is my intention to commit to the schedule attached and prepare for each concert accordingly. If there is a conflict with a concert date, I agree to give TWO WEEKS notice for any planned absence and will have to complete a makeup assignment. Failure to give TWO WEEKS notice will result in the loss of points for the concert.

## Examples of Excused Absences (needing two weeks advance notice)

- Weddings
- Family Reunions
- Planned Vacations
- Birth of new brother or sister
- Confirmation/Baptism/Communion/Religious ceremony

## Examples of Emergency Situations (please notify Mrs. Nein after the fact)

- Illness
- Death in the family/friends (funeral attendance)
- Weather/ Car concern

## NON Excused absences (resulting in loss of points)

- Too much homework
- Sports practice
- Birthdays
- Babysitting
- Tired

I, \_\_\_\_\_ and my parent \_\_\_\_\_ agree to the above contract and have checked the dates with my family calendar. It is my responsibility to give two weeks notice if I am going to miss a performance and to pick up and complete makeup work assigned. It is my intention to have a wonderful year as a member of the Heritage Grove band family!

